

Secretary of the State's

Public Service Award



presented to

Peter Galgano Jr.

*in recognition of your dedicated service and contribution to
state boards and commissions in Connecticut.*



A handwritten signature in purple ink, which appears to read "Susan Bysiewicz".

Susan Bysiewicz
Secretary of the State of Connecticut

May 5, 2003

2004 MCL Rifle Detail Return to MCL events



Pictured above practicing from left to right are:

John Clark
Peter Galgano Jr.
George Perodeau
Dick Wearne

This was the beginning of Hardware City Detachment's Honors Detail
These 4 Marine Corps League members did Military Honors for over
100 funerals in the first year.

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS



This Recognizes

Peter Galgano, Jr.

as an Authorized Provider
in the Military Funeral Honors Program



THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
is proud to recognize this achievement

Honoring Those Who Served

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Vasile".

MICHAEL A. VASILE
COLONEL, ENGINEER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Rumsfeld".

DONALD H. RUMSFELD
Secretary of Defense



Peter Galgano Jr. videotaped, edited, and created the Wake & Funeral DVD. Copies were made and given to 300 Funeral Directors in CT and put on website.



Honoring Those Who Served



*“On behalf of the President of the United States,
the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and
a grateful nation...”*

**Marine Corps League
Hardware City Detachment #781
New Britain, CT 06051
Wake Service & Funeral Honors Video**



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TRT: 12 Min.

Wake Service & Military Funeral Honors



Honoring Those Who Served

The rendering of *Military Funeral Honors* is a dignified and peaceful way to show our nation's deep gratitude to those men and women who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our country.

The ceremonial *Wake Service and Military Funeral Honors* are the final demonstrations to honor the deceased U.S. Marine and U.S. Navy Fleet Marine Force Corpsman with deserved respect through a somber and dignified farewell.

This video will show the complete *Wake Service and Military Funeral Honors* ceremonies as presented by the Marine Corps League Hardware City Detachment #781 in tribute to our fallen Marines and FMF Corpsmen. In addition, this video will also serve as a resource tool for our nation's Funeral Directors as they assist Marine Corps and FMF Corpsman veterans' families in arranging for either the Wake Service or Military Funeral Honors at graveside, or both.

We must remember that the immediate family of our fallen Marines and FMF Corpsmen has only one opportunity to receive this honor for their loved one. *Taking care of our own is not just a phrase; it is our duty to the families of our fallen brothers.*





Public Service Announcement Marine Toys for Tots Campaign

Since 1775 the Marine Corps has defended freedom and democracy around the globe – a duty that has been fulfilled with honor, courage and commitment. As they have fulfilled that duty, Marines have earned a well deserved reputation for toughness.

But there is another side to the Marine Corps – the side that springs from a genuine concern for the communities in which they live, and a deep compassion for the under-privileged children of America. That’s the side that exemplifies the spirit of the Marine Corps. That side is found in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.

You can help out the Marines this year by dropping off a new unwrapped toy at a local toy drop off location nearest you, just look for a Toys for Tots poster in the window. For the nearest drop off point go to www.toysfortots.org and click on ‘donate toys’ then choose the state of Connecticut and look under ‘Plainville, CT’. Or you may also drop off toys in person at the Marine Corps Reserve Center **1 Linsley Drive, Plainville, CT 06062 or call 860-747-1643 x112**. We are having a shortage of toys particularly for the boys/girls age groups 0-3 and 12 Plus. You may also contribute checks or money orders payable to: ‘Marine Toys for Tots Foundation’, mail it to the address indicated above, attention: Toys for Tots Coordinator. **We are also looking for volunteers to donate their time and help us sort and bag toys at our Reserve Center. Anyone over the age of 15 is welcome to stop by in Plainville, Monday thru Saturday anytime from 8am to 5pm, please bring a valid ID to verify your identity.**

You can also contact Peter Galgano Jr., Deputy Public Relations Officer/Web Sergeant, Dept of Connecticut, Marine Corps League, at Middlesex Community College, **100 Training Hill Road, Middletown, CT 06457 or call 860-604-7258**.

Please support the children, support the Marines...support Toys for Tots, Remember: **“Every child deserves a little Christmas”**



United States Marine Corps Reserve



☆☆☆☆ Commander's Award ☆☆☆☆

*The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
is proud to recognize*

Peter Galgano Jr.

*for outstanding achievement in support
of the 2007 Toys for Tots Program.*

*These generous contributions have enabled us
to help fulfill the Christmas dreams of our
nation's neediest children.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Bergman".

Jack Bergman
LtGen, USMCR
Commander
Marine Forces Reserve



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zeehaq Butt".

Coordinator
U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
Toys for Tots Program

The Berlin Citizen

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Marine Corps League Department of Connecticut Award Goes to Local Man



East Berlin resident, Peter Galgano Jr., is the recipient of the 2006, prestigious, Department of Connecticut Marine of the Year award. Galgano is a member of the Marine Corps League Hardware City Detachment #781 in New Britain, CT. Galgano, a Vietnam veteran, received the award at the Department's Convention Grand Banquet on June 24, held at the Marriott Courtyard in Cromwell. Each Connecticut Detachment selects a nominee for Marine of the Year. The nominees are screened by a panel of judges composed entirely of past Department of Connecticut Marines of the Year.

Galgano was chosen because of the recognition he has brought to himself, his Detachment, and the Department. He is the Deputy Public Relations Officer for the MCL Department of Connecticut, as well as Department of CT and Hardware City Detachment Web Sergeant. He has been appointed Sgt.E-5, CT State Guard Reserve for Military Funeral Honors duty and is a Team Leader and Trainer for the Hardware City Detachment Honors detail.

Galgano is a member of and has trained Hardware City Detachment's Color Guard. He is also a member of the Detachment's Wake Detail.

Galgano has spent many hours maintaining the Marine Corps League website with posting of detachment events and photos, newsletters, and press releases, as well as regular updating of much more MCL information. He has also updated the website with photos of families so the Marines of 1st Battalion, 25th Marines, Charlie Company, based in Plainville, CT, and presently deployed in Fallujah, Iraq, get to see their loved ones. Galgano also posts photos sent to his e-mail from 1st Sgt. Ben Grainger of Charlie Company in Fallujah for viewing by the Marine's families in the United States. He has also assisted Departments of New Jersey, New York, Maryland, and New Hampshire in creating websites and links to the Department of Connecticut website to see their Marines in Fallujah.



Marine Corps League



Department of Connecticut



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Detachments

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CT MCL Events

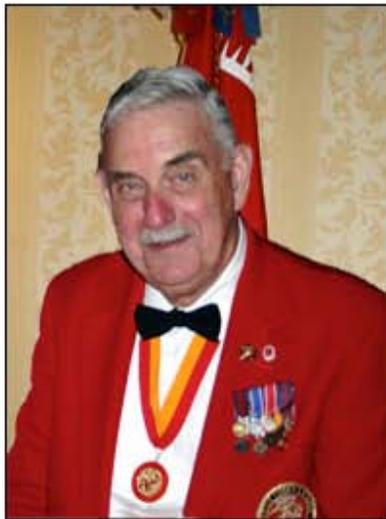
CT Devil Dogs

Uniform Codes

Veteran Info

Photo Gallery

Welcome to the MCL Department of Connecticut



**Commandant ~ Duanne P. Knowles, P.D.D.
2010 ~ 2011**

Welcomes You To The Constitution State

Incorporated by an act of Congress in 1937, the Marine Corps League perpetuates the traditions and spirit of ALL Marines who proudly wear or who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor of the Corps.

**THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE...
THE ORGANIZATION FOR ALL MARINES:**

active duty~reserve~former~retired~officer~enlisted

The Marine Corps League preserves the traditions and promotes the interests of the United States Marine Corps. The League promotes the ideals of American freedom and democracy. We voluntarily aid and render assistance to all Marines as well as to their widows and orphans.



Semper Fidelis



[Click Here to view MCL
Videos](#)



**MCL Department of Connecticut Website Created & Designed By
Peter Galgano Jr.**

[MCL National](#)

[National Auxiliary](#)

[Defend America](#)

[USMC Link](#)

[Marine Expo](#)

Marine Corps League



MCL Department of Connecticut Photo Gallery

created and edited by Peter Galgano Jr.



[2004 Event Photo Gallery](#)

[2005 Event Photo Gallery](#)

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[Charlie Company in Iraq Return to 2006 Photo Gallery](#)
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Fallujah Fran



Neighborhood Mosque



Peckey Navigator Removal Services Inc.



The Warriors



LCpl Kowensky



New Dog House



Super Coffee from the Coffee Trader in Avon CT

Sgt. Palmer, Capt. Miller, Sgt. Mann



LCpl VOP Shaver



Patrol 1



Swann, Enrico, Rodriguez, Davis, Ibarra-Castro

LCpl Binney, Cpl Collins, LCpl Ocasmos, Cpl Ortiz



[Charlie Company Family Day 4-29-06 Return to 2006 Photo Gallery](#)
[Click on Picture to Enlarge](#)

Page 1 | Page 2 | Page 3 | Page 4 | Page 5



Peter Galgano Jr. photographed, edited, and created the C Co. Homecoming DVD.
200 copies were made and given to the Marines and their families.

Charlie Company 1/25 2006 Deployment January to October



TRT: 38 Min.



Charlie Company Deployment 2006



This DVD is dedicated to the Marines and Families of Charlie Company 1/25

1 - Charlie Company 2006 Deployment - 17 min. 36 sec.

2 - 2006 Family Events - 16 min. 20 sec.

3 - Hartford Courant Photos - 3 min. 40 sec.

The Courant photos are protected by copyright and it is a violation of law to reprint photos, illustrations or passages of text without permission from the Hartford Courant.

Marines Award Resident with Veteran of the Year

The Marines of Charlie Company, 1st BN, 25th Marines, based in Plainville, gathered on May 19, with their families, for the first Family Day since their return from Iraq. 1st Sgt. Ben Grainger, Inspector Instructor of Charlie Company, prepared to announce the winner of the 2006 Veteran of the Year award. Marine Corps League, Hardware City Detachment #781 member Peter Galgano, a Vietnam veteran, prepared to take a photo of whoever received the award, to post on the MCL website he maintains as web sergeant. The East Berlin resident would not be taking a photo for this occasion. Galgano was announced as Veteran of the Year.

Galgano's involvement and dedication to the Marines of Charlie Company is extensive. During their deployment to Iraq, he established an ongoing e-mail connection with Grainger, who sent photos of Marines in Iraq. As well as helping to organize fundraisers and events for the Marines families here at home, Galgano also took photos. He posted them on the website, with Grainger's, giving both the Marines and their families an online link to each other.

Actively participating in the "Give to the Troops," gathering in Rocky Hill, Galgano helped pack care packages for Marines that were sent to Iraq and Afghanistan. Through e-mail with Grainger, he got the names of 194 supporters of the Marines in Iraq, who went above and beyond in their contributions. Through the use of his computer, Galgano made a certificate in each supporter's name. The Marines of Charlie Company, frequently accompanied by Galgano, then presented a certificate to each of the contributors.

Galgano was actively involved in organizing Charlie Company's homecoming reception, held on October 25, 2006, at the Hartford Armory. He designed and created a Welcome Home ad book and a musical DVD slideshow of all the photographs that had been posted on the Marine Corps League website during the Marine's deployment. The slideshow was played on a 20-foot screen for families to watch as they waited to greet their homecoming Marine. Galgano also made copies of the DVD, giving one to each of the 200 families.

The above is only a sample of Galgano's involvement, time, and dedication to Charlie Company. His award certificate states, "For outstanding performance and contribution to The Marines of Charlie Company." Along with the certificate, Galgano also received a glass statue of an eagle in flight.

For information about the Marine Corps League, visit the web at www.mcldptct.org



Peter Galgano, left, poses with 1st Sgt. Ben Grainger after he was awarded the Veteran of the Year by the Marines of Charlie Company

Charlie Company honors 2006 Veteran of the Year in May

The Marines of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion 25th Marines, based in Plainville, gathered on May 19, with their families, for the first Family Day since their return from Iraq. 1st Sgt. Ben Grainger, inspector/instructor of Charlie Company, prepared to announce the winner of the 2006 Veteran of the Year Award. Peter Galgano, member of Marine Corps League, Hardware City Detachment 781, prepared to take a photo of whoever received the award to post on the Marines of Charlie Company Web site he maintains as Web sergeant. The East Berlin resident would not be taking a photo

for this occasion: Galgano was announced as Veteran of the Year.

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Give to the Troops gathering in Rocky Hill, Galgano helped pack care packages for Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan. Through e-mail with Grainger, he obtained the names of 194 supporters of the Marines in Iraq, who went above and beyond in their contributions. On his computer, Galgano made a certificate in each supporter's name. The Marines of Charlie Company, frequently accompanied by Galgano, then presented a certificate to each of the contributors.

Galgano was actively involved in organizing Charlie Company's homecoming reception, held on Oct. 25 at the Hartford Armory. He designed and created a Welcome Home ad book and a musical DVD slide show of all the photographs that had been posted on the Marine Corps League Web site during the Marines' deployment. The slide show was played on a 20-foot screen for families to watch as they waited to greet their homecoming Marine. Galgano also made copies of the DVD, giving one



Peter Galgano, of East Berlin, left, receives the 2006 Veteran of the Year Award from 1st Sgt. Ben Grainger, inspector/instructor of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion 25th Marines.

Photo courtesy of Virginia King Galgano

to each of the 200 families.

Galgano was also involved with Charlie Company in many other ways. His award certificate states, "For outstanding performance and contribution to the Marines of

Charlie Company." Galgano also received a glass statue of an eagle in flight.

For information about the Marine Corps League Hardware City Detachment 781, visit www.mcldeptct.org.

News Briefs

Police order extra patrols on roads

The Plainville Police Department will be conducting checkpoints to spot drivers who may be driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The schedule follows: Sunday, July 1, 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.;

Saturday, July 13, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Friday, July 20, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Saturday, July 28, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Saturday, Aug. 11, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Saturday, Aug. 18, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 22, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.; and Saturday, Sept. 1, 8:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

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The Plainville Citizen — Thursday, June 28, 2007

Journal Inquirer.com

NORTH-CENTRAL CONNECTICUT'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Towns > East Hartford

Rentschler Field to host Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Print Page

By Matthew Engelhardt
Journal Inquirer

Published: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:51 AM EDT

EAST HARTFORD — Few experiences match the reverence of visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. and reading the names of the thousands killed or still missing during the war.

This week, residents unable to make it to Washington will have the experience replicated for them at Rentschler Field.

The Vietnam Traveling Wall comes to East Hartford on Wednesday. Motorcycle riders, most of whom are veterans, will escort the 370-foot-long, 8-foot-tall wall to the field, where it will stand open to residents 24 hours a day through next weekend.

"This event is a moving and respectful tribute," Paul Barry, chairman of the First District Vietnam Wall Committee, said. "The traveling memorial stands as a reminder of the great sacrifice of war.

"It was made for the purpose of helping to heal and rekindle friendships made during a difficult time," Barry continued. "It is our way of saying thank you to all the veterans who have served our country past and present, and to those who currently serve in Iraq and Afghanistan."

On Wednesday, 612 motorcyclists will ride in honor of the exact number of Connecticut residents killed in action or still missing from a war that saw 58,260 Americans lose their lives or go missing.

The traveling wall is an 80 percent replica of the monument in Washington D.C., Peter Galgano, public relations chairman for the committee, said.

Galgano said Rentschler Field would be transformed into a place of remembrance, gathering, and honor during the visit. He expects between 50,000 to 80,000 people to visit East Hartford this week to see the memorial.

He called it an emotional experience sure to stir anyone who served in war or has loved ones who are veterans.

"You really think those feelings would go away, but they don't," Galgano said.

This is the 25th anniversary of the traveling wall's creation. Galgano said U.S. Rep. John B. Larson, D-1st District, an East Hartford native, worked with the committee to bring the monument to Connecticut.

The committee worried about a location, but found Rentschler Field was open to them and accommodating, Galgano said.

A host of activities is in store to welcome the memorial to East Hartford.

The motorcycle ride begins Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Beginning Thursday at noon, the memorial will be open for viewing 24 hours a day.

Officials will hold an opening ceremony Thursday at 7 p.m., featuring guests from all branches of the military.

EYEWITNESS NEWS 3



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HOME PAGE / VIDEO



Vietnam Wall To Visit Rentschler Field

The traveling Vietnam Wall is set to make a stop at Rentschler Field in East Hartford this week.



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Vietnam Wall To Visit Rentschler Field

1:21 / 4:18

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NATIONAL	 Ethan/Walker Students Perform Holiday Song	 Scott Vito Ozobelli To Learn About Tax Deductible Donations	 Bristol Dress Maker Creates Custom Gowns	 Star Runner Store Makes Stairs Pet-Friendly
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EYEWITNESS NEWS 3



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HOME PAGE / VIDEO



Vietnam War Memorial Comes To Metro Hartford

0:50 / 6:14

FULL SCREEN

Vietnam War Memorial Comes To Metro Hartford

Peter Galgano and Craig Jordan discuss the Vietnam War Memorial coming to Metro Hartford.



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Pratt High 'Cool' For Wizard Of Oz

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**Vietnam Wall Rentschler Field Oct. 18, 2008
Colors Ceremony created & written by Peter Galgano Jr.**





Colors Ceremony – Saturday, October 18, 2008 Vietnam Wall Rentschler Field, East Hartford, CT

What does the American Flag stand for?

By Peter Galgano Jr.

The American Flag stands for courage, camaraderie, safety and protection. Also the flag expresses patriotism and love of the country. Did you know that the colors on our flag stand for something? White stands for purity and innocence. Red stands for hardiness and valor. Last but not least, blue stands for vigilance, perseverance and justice. The stars on the American Flag stand for heaven and divine. The stripes mean rays of light emanating from the sun. The flag also stands for something else. The flag stands for hope, beliefs and accomplishments of our nation.

Flags are the most important symbols in the nation. The flag has stood for character, personality and the American history. The American flag has become an old, familiar symbol. Some people do not take the flag seriously; they make tents, skirts, T-shirts and seats of their jeans. The 13 stripes stand for the 13 colonies. The 50 stars today, represent the 50 US States. There have been a lot of changes in the American flag. Francis Scott Key wrote a poem, which is now known as the Star Spangled Banner.

The flag does not tell us that we are perfect. But, the flag tells us we must always strive to be perfect. Normally the flag is displayed only from sunrise to sunset. For special occasions it may be displayed at night and needs be lighted. The flag should be raised briskly, lowered slowly and ceremonially. At no time should the flag touch anything beneath. You cannot write, draw and no other marks should be on the flag.

Seeing the flag flying, proudly reminds me of my **Marine Corps Boot Camp** in Paris Island, South Carolina. So much drilling and marching, mostly in the rain. Long hours in

classrooms. Running the obstacle course, learning hand to hand combat, and being closeted with tear gas, just to be sure we trusted our gas masks if they should ever be needed.

Many times late at night you'd hear quiet sobbing from the stress and homesickness. I, myself, wondered several times if I'd made a mistake in volunteering to serve my country. It all seemed so ridiculous and grueling the things we had to do, when others were in cushy civilian jobs.

Then on graduation day, when we marched onto the parade field in front of our families and friends (it was the first time my Mom and Dad ever flew on a plane) the Marine Corps band played the Marine Hymn, we all stood so straight and proud, and then they began to play, "She's a Grand Ole Flag". At that moment, they began briskly raising the flag up the flagpole in the center of the field. Every military person present saluted the flag, and civilians put their hands over their hearts.

The words of the song ran through my mind, "She's the emblem of the land I love, the home of the free and the brave..." The flag stands for freedom and all of the lives lost over the many years and the many wars to give us this freedom today.

I cry and pray for all of those who have lost their lives fighting for a free America, and I salute **all** our men and women in uniform, no matter where they are serving, who always answer any challenge that threatens freedom — our freedom!

This Colors Ceremony honors all of our Military and Public Service organizations that put their lives on the line everyday for our Freedom and our Safety.

I will now hand the microphone back to my friend and fellow Marine, Brad Davis, to introduce the Colors we have here for you today. Thank you.

Peter Galgano Jr. created this Thank You Certificate
for the Hardware City Detachment Marine Rose Program

This certifies that Super Stop & Shop #0614 of Berlin, CT is a strong and grateful supporter of the Marine Rose Program, "In Memory of Those Who Served Forever Remembered", and to Assist Wounded Veterans and Local Youth Programs and provide other services to the community.

On this day, this certificate was dedicated to

Super Stop & Shop #0614

By the

*Hardware City Detachment # 781
Marine Corps League & Auxiliary
In Memory of Those Who Served
Marine Corps League*



*Your dedication to making the lives of our Marines better will never go forgotten.
For historical purposes an official entry has been recorded in the command duty logbook.*

Raymond L. Carrier Sr.

*Marine Corps League
Hardware City Detachment #781
Commandant*

November 10, 2009

Serial No. 001

Peter Galgano Jr. created Marine Corps League's Marine Rose Program webpage on Dept. of CT website with PDF files for viewing and printing

Marine Corps League



Marine Corps League Rose Program

[Click on either picture for PDF file to view or print](#)



History of the Marine Corps Rose

In 1778 during the War of Independence the **Marine Corps Rose** was dedicated to those Marines who made the Ultimate Sacrifice for their country. This tradition was continued by the **French during World War One** when the Marines attacked the **Germans in the trenches at Belleau Wood**. Roses were planted by the grateful French people at the graves of the Fallen Marines. When you see members of the Marine Corps League distributing these remembrances, take one and wear it proudly.

MCL Rose Program

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED FOREVER REMEMBERED

Started by Marine Eddie Gallagher from New York, designed to parallel the VFW "Poppy" program to provide funds for detachments to assist veterans and youth and provide other services to the community.

Support programs such as bingo or holiday parties for hospitalized or retired veterans in retirement homes:

- Assist Wounded Veterans
- Scholarships
- Humanitarian Aid
- Health and Comfort items for Hospitalized Veterans
- Assist Local Youth Programs



Marine Corps League Hardware City Detachment #781 Community Event Photos *Semper Fidelis*



Collecting Toys For Tots



Wake & Funeral Services



Eagle Scout Presentations



Children's Home Picnics



Memorial & Veteran Day Parades



Memorial & Veteran Day Monuments



Veteran's Bridge & Highway Dedications



Honor's Detail for Funerals & Monuments

[Click to see Marine Rose Article in Berlin Citizen](#)

[Click to see the Marine Rose Program Thank-Yous](#)

[Return to Home Page](#)

The Buzz Around Berlin

Marine Corps Rose Program

In conjunction with the Marine Corps Birthday (Nov. 10) and Veterans Day, Berlin residents George Perodeau and Peter Galgano Jr., members of the Marine Corps League, Hardware City Detachment 781, set up a display for the Marine Corps Rose Program Oct. 10 and Oct. 11 in front of Super Stop & Shop at 1135 Farmington Ave. The MCL Rose Program, In Memory of Those Who Served Forever Remembered, is designed to parallel the VFW "poppy program" to



provide funds for detachments to assist wounded veterans and local youth programs and provide other services to the community. On Nov. 5, Perodeau and Galgano presented a framed cer-

tificate of appreciation to Cheryl Woodin, Store Manager and Paul Morse, Customer Service Manager of the Berlin Stop & Shop for their support of the Marine Rose Program.

Student of the Month



Joseph Salwocki, of Berlin, was recently recognized as the Rotary Club of Middletown Outstanding Student of the Month. Salwocki, a senior a Vinal Technical High School, is a member of the National Honor Society, a senior mentor and an Eagle Scout in Berlin Troop 24. He is pictured with Patricia Lyman, president of the Rotary Club of Middletown and Suzanne Niemiec, guidance councilor at Vinal Tech.



A bakery tour

Troop 66232 recently toured First and Last Bakery and Cafe in Hartford. The girls, who are earning a Sweet Shoppe badge, toured the bakery and with guidance from Head Pastry Chef, Dave Mansur, rolled their own croissants and oatmeal cookies. Pictured with Chef Mansur are Emma Arroyo, McKenzie Cyr, Jillian Parmelee, Lindsay Walsh, Danielle Messina, Julia Ladd, Kelsei Ziiczewski, Emma Klepacki, Shanna Lennehan, Melanie Bosco and Nikki Baedor.

Raising Berlin officers

The officers of Raising Berlin, right, pose for a photo at their first-ever treelighting this month. They wore matching festive scarves to mark the occasion. They are: President, Lisa Toussaint; Vice President, Sharon Pinchera; Social Chair Person, Amanda DiDomenico and Secretary, Giulia Dubuc.



Baby's first Christmas

Send us your precious photos of your baby's first Christmas and we will publish them in the new year. Send along all the information we will need, such as parents and grandparents names as well as names of siblings who were waiting for the little bundle of joy when he or she came home.
E-mail photos to news@theberlincitizen.com.

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THE FLYING HORSE



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Peter Galgano standing on the set in the MxCC TV Studio

Peter Galgano: Renaissance Man

by Rebecca Cashman

I first met Peter Galgano in television production class. I had never touched a camera and had never filmed anything of significance. I was bewildered. Pete came to assist the large class with camera certifications. After paying attention to the entire lecture, I still couldn't remember how to focus, or even where the zoom button was; nonetheless, it was my turn to be certified.

Pete looked at me and said, "Okay, set up the tripod." Awkwardly, I managed to lock the tripod in place and put the camera on top. I waded my way through the menu screen, but, when it blinked, "Reset the Menu Card," I panicked; I had broken the camera. When I brought it to Pete, he took one look at the flashing icon and laughed, "Nice job. It's your first day, Rebecca, and you broke the camera!"

I blushed and whimpered, "Sorry." Little did I know this moment would begin a valued friendship. From that point on, I've brought problems or concerns to Pete, who effortlessly solves them. Whether it's a technical, "Why is it doing that?" or an emotional, "What do I do about this?" Pete is there to help.

Helping people is one of Pete's top priorities. He enjoys helping students, as well as staff, but he teaches them to help themselves first. Broadcast Communications student Shelly Dolan highly respects Pete and his work.

"I admire his patience and willingness to always help others no matter what he has going on; I truly appreciate the guidance he has given us in the past couple of years," says Dolan.

Co-worker and friend Paul Morelli says, "Pete keeps the TV studio as well as the audio and video editing suites humming for students and faculty of the Broadcast Journalism, TV Production and various multimedia classes. He manages and keeps track of the cameras (still and video), tripods, microphones, various cables, batteries and a variety of computers and other resources too numerous to mention."

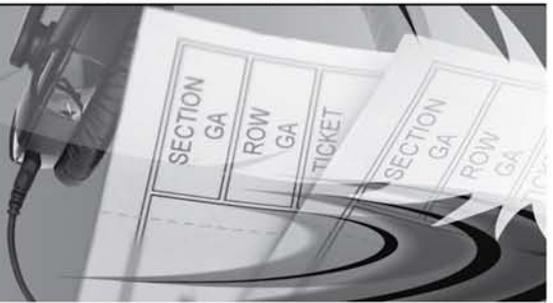
His expertise and accomplishments in the communications field over qualify him for the job, but Middlesex is right where he wants to be.

"Pete Galgano is the kind of person that goes above and beyond what is needed, not because he has to but because he wants to see each and every student succeed. It is this kind of dedication that has helped make the Broadcast Communications Department what it is today. His drive to not only see the students succeed but his drive to ensure that students have the real world training on real world equipment is what makes the MxCC Communications Program so rewarding and enriching," says former student David Tobin.

Pete helps the staff at Middlesex as well as the students.

see "Peter Galgano: Renaissance Man" page 5

ARTS, CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT



Peter Galgano: Renaissance Man continued from pg 1



Peter working with student Judy Prill in the Control Room

English professor Dale Griffith says, “My first semester at MxCC, Peter bailed me out of numerous technical difficulties and, even when the problems could have been fixed by a 5-year-old, Peter smiled and offered a kind word. He’s a true gentleman.”

At Middlesex, he is also responsible for maintaining all the equipment in the communications and multimedia centers in Snow Hall. This includes the audio studio, four edit suites, the animation station, TV control room, television studio, equipment room, darkroom, as well as assistance to instructors in the new Smart Rooms. He manages and maintains the Macs in the Mac Lab and understands many computer programs.

Pete is involved in numerous groups and committees including the Student Senate. He is Chairman of the College Affairs Committee, advisor for the newly formed Paranormal Club,

and is currently working on a committee to bring an Oasis Center for veterans to Middlesex.

In addition to his contributions to Middlesex, Pete is a certified Reiki (pronounced Ray-key) Master. Reiki is the practice of using spiritual energy to heal. A Reiki master has perfected the art of tapping into one’s “life force energy” for stress reduction and relaxation, even healing. His extensive training in this ancient Tibetan tradition enables him to help others cope with problems and stress — big or small. Pete is also a life coach, counseling people directly to help them help themselves.

When asked about separating other people’s troubles from his personal life and work, he said he loses sleep sometimes, but the positive outcomes are his reward. When students make strong choices, cope with stress, and understand problems, Pete is rewarded.

A former Marine, Pete is extremely involved in Veteran Memorial Services. In 2006, he earned the title of Veteran of the Year for his contributions to the Marines of Charlie Company. The Marines of Charlie Company honored him because he established a website for Marines in Iraq to see their families in Connecticut.

Pete maintains a website with photographs, videos, and updates from family and friends. He established an on-going email with Marines who sent pictures from Iraq; Pete then posts these on the website for their families back home.

Again in 2007, Pete was named Marine of the Year for his extensive involvement with the Marine Corps League Military Funeral Honors Detail, Public Relations, and for maintaining their website. He credits his knowledge and ability to maintain a website to the Middlesex Multimedia Center. Strongly involved in bringing the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Wall to Connecticut, Pete was responsible for all public relations and helped to find the funding to bring the Vietnam Wall to Connecticut. The Traveling Wall was well received at Rentschler Field in East Hartford in October 2008. Pete thoroughly enjoyed meeting other Marines, veterans and their families.

“It’s all about giving back. I’ve received so much in my life,” he said, humbly.

Truly a Renaissance man, Pete Galgano is respected and valued by students, staff and the community. Thanks, Pete.



Marine Corps League Hardware City Detachment #781 Community Event Photos



Semper Fidelis



Collecting Toys For Tots



Wake & Funeral Services



Eagle Scout Presentations



Children's Home Picnics



Memorial & Veteran Day Parades



Memorial & Veteran Day Monuments



Veteran's Bridge & Highway Dedications



Honor's Detail for Funerals & Monuments