

## The Future Looks Bright for Six New Haven Graduates

Our New Haven family applauds this year's graduating seniors—a tremendous group of young men who are envisioning hopeful futures full of plans to attend college, join the military and pursue a career. Each youth worked hard to make dramatic changes in their life that enabled them to create opportunities and affect positive outcomes as they journey into adulthood. *(continued on last page)*



*During an emotional evening, graduates supported one another as each spoke about what it meant to them to earn their diploma.*

## Pomp & Circumstance at Trade Tech

**J**ust four years after enrolling its freshman class, North County Trade Tech High School graduated its first cadre of seniors this month, fulfilling the dreams of its founders, industry supporters, families and students. Every student in the Class of 2012 has post-secondary plans, with one-quarter of students already offered jobs as apprentices with local building trade companies, three-fifths planning to attend college and all students passing the state high school exit exam and pursuing multiple career paths.

Five of Trade Tech's seniors have been hired and will be sponsored by industry partners with support from scholarships from the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), which provides compensation for courses, books and tools, plus coordination of immediate employment. ABC Executive Director Sherry Yarbrough noted, "Everyone has been very impressed with the caliber of these students." ABC was also impressed with Trade Tech's jump in academic



*Trade Tech's recent six-year accreditation by the Western Association of School and Colleges (WASC) will make matriculation to California colleges seamless for graduating seniors.*

performance with a state index rise of 159 points—the largest increase of any California charter school.

Nik Peiler will join Helix Electric, Danny Aguilar and Anthony Boyd will join Bergelectric, Lius Beryl Raffi will join Gould Electric, and Dillon Wyatt will join Certified Air. With apprenticeships ranging from three to five years, a full five-year scholarship could amount to as much as \$5,000.

Said Raffi about his pending employment, "I'm fully committed. I feel

like I owe it to myself, to my family and to my school."

Added Peiler, "I'm so excited! It's so important to me and my whole family, especially my mom and my dad."

Said Doreen Quinn, CEO of New Haven and Trade Tech High School, "With current data suggesting that 30 percent of high school students nationwide will drop out, our goal is to engage students in a new way to ensure graduates have both the academic skills to succeed in college but also the workforce competencies that give them an edge in college and skilled-trade apprenticeships."

Generous support for Trade Tech has come from the Gary and Mary West Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, H.G. Fenton Foundation, Ackerman Foundation, Girard Foundation, Parker Foundation, Leichtag Foundation, San Diego Gas & Electric, WD40, Associated Builders and Contractors, the Barona Band of Mission Indians and the Rancho Santa Fe Women's Fund.

## A Message from Our Chairman

With summer just around the corner, this is a season when New Haven and its cadre of graduates really shine.



New Haven has been a beacon of light for six hard-working young men who are ready to make their way in the world, armed with hope and

restored health as they reunite with families and plan for bright futures.

With the first graduating class of seniors commencing from Trade Tech, the goals of our strategic plan to provide project-based, career-technical education opportunities to reluctant learners in our region are being met. With 100 percent of our seniors having post-secondary plans and Trade Tech earning an acclaimed WASC accreditation, both our students and our school are thriving.

And in our quest to connect with more youth through the development of programs that open additional career pathways, New Haven's newest Catering4Youth Academy is already making its mark on our youth, the community, and local organizations that have supported the program.

As always, I commend the dedication of the staff and the generosity of so many individuals that support our mission to restore hope and empower youth in need.



**DONN BLEAU**

Chairman, New Haven Youth & Family Services

## Sports Are a Win-Win for Youth



*Says Golf Pro Phil Machamer of New Haven youth, "I want these kids to feel cared for, no matter where they have been or what they have done."*

Ask any professional athlete what they've learned over the years and you'll probably never hear "how to hit with a five iron" or "how to strike the perfect corner kick." Instead, they'll likely tell you about the life lessons taught through practice, teamwork and sportsmanship. New Haven understands the importance of sports and physical activity for not only the students' mental and physical health, but for their character development.

Thanks to generous donations from TaylorMade, golf and soccer are two sports that New Haven residents are learning from. With volunteer support from professional golf instructor Phil Machamer, head golf coach Christopher Kates is able to interweave lessons about self-control, positive thinking, gratitude, physics, self-awareness

and more into weekly instructions. Coach Kates points out that the value of these sports extends beyond the driving range—they are vital confidence builders.

"I have repeatedly watched boys swing a club for the first time and discover they have a hidden talent," says Kates. "They'll experience the thrill of hitting the ball and will almost laugh out of surprise, then look to see who saw their amazing feat. The entire experience, from suiting up in top-of-the-line Adidas clothing to being trusted with equipment, to being heartily welcomed by golf club members, makes the boys feel special."

New Haven's head soccer coach, Taryn Hagerman, echoes those thoughts and believes that team sports have the power to transform the lives of young people. Hagerman says that for many students, being on the soccer team was the first time they felt they could be both supported by and connected to their peers.

Says team captain Angel N., "Soccer has helped me become a better leader. I learned that I had to lead by example and show my teammates how to act."

As they competed against veteran teams, Hagerman says the change in their demeanors and confidence was visible. "They were walking taller, smiling bigger and taking more accountability for their actions. The energy and excitement was so contagious that many boys not on the team were coming to games and asking to join."

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*"Golf teaches you about life. It has ups and downs. It's not always fair. You can't fake your way around a golf course and you need to practice to improve. It requires discipline. You need to be able to play well with others and you must keep score honestly. And here's my favorite... you have to tell on yourself when you break a rule."*

—Phil Machamer,  
Lomas Santa Fe Golf Resort

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# Cooking Up Hope

**T**here are a lot of cooks in the kitchen thanks to New Haven's new Catering4Youth Academy. Now armed with their Food Safety Certification, business is heating up as enthusiastic youth chefs serve up culinary delights to fellow students, staff, community members and businesses.

"I am absolutely in love with this program! We were treated to a delicious breakfast that was beautifully served," exclaimed Carol Brady Ames, president of the Kiwanis Club of Sunrise Vista. "My heart just about burst open when I heard how the youth are learning new skills and gaining new confidence. I highly recommend this creative program for anyone wanting to provide a wonderful dining experience."

With New Haven Friend Terry Chamberlin leading the program's after-school cooking and baking classes, students earned rave reviews from Datron employees when dozens of gift packages full of homemade chocolate dipped strawberries were personally delivered as a thank-you for their recent donation to New Haven. Terry's lesson also became an opportunity to give back when she helped the youth make candy that they were encouraged to give to a special



*Pride and gratitude were the main ingredients of students' homemade treats.*

friend or teacher—much to the delight of everyone on campus. Fulfilling New Haven's goals to inspire entrepreneurial leadership, students are now exploring how to mass produce and sell their candy and baked goods.

The Catering4Youth Academy has received tremendous support from Datron, Terry Chamberlin, Friends of New Haven, Gigi Gleason, Bob Burke of Coyote Cafe, St. Germaine's Children's Charity, Assistance League North Coast, the Rancho Santa Fe Women's Fund, San Diego County Employees Charitable Organization (CECO) and San Diego Gas & Electric.

## Rancho Santa Fe Gets a Taste of New Haven

**T**he Catering4Youth Academy earned top marks from the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation when its Women's Fund chose New Haven from among many other applicants vying for a grant from this notable organization. A gift of \$28,000 will support the program's goals to expand and outfit the

teaching kitchen with modern appliances and catering equipment and facilitate the start-up of a student-run catering and food truck business.

Impressed with New Haven's history of success, the Foundation was interested in funding a program that would not only help today's students but also lay a foundation to many more in the years to come. "The boys seem to flourish under this hands-on learning experience," said a Foundation representative. "They not only learn a skill but also many life lessons in the process."

As the program creates multiple pathways to employment in the hospitality and tourism industries, it will also allow students to work alongside industry mentors as they work towards their high school diploma, as well as positively engage in their local community by preparing meals for those less fortunate.



*A new gift will help expand and outfit our catering kitchen.*

### BOARD SPOTLIGHT

## Frank Mercardante



**V**eteran banker and church deacon Frank Mercardante has been supporting New Haven's vision as a board member since 2004. With 45 years in commercial banking and 25 years in church ministry, Frank appreciates an operation that's both financially sound and service bound. Now semi-retired and consulting, Frank's vast experience with community banks nationwide has ranged from start-ups to established institutions. His parish work is based at St. Mark's Catholic Church in San Marcos, though he serves the larger community through his participation in various Catholic ministries.

Frank was compelled to join New Haven's board thanks to its visionary mission and quality staff, citing them as "some of the most phenomenal professionals he's ever seen." Given his own experience, he likens the work being done at New Haven to a ministry, evidenced by a staff that considers their work not just a job but an opportunity to dramatically change the lives of troubled youth.

"New Haven is the last stop for troubled teens who need assistance beyond what their home and school environment can provide," said Mercardante. "As bad as their situation is, it doesn't have to end that way. I've seen it with my own eyes—angry, hopeless boys whose self-esteem is renewed as they become equipped to deal with life's challenges."

## Our Mission

*Building positive futures  
for youth, their families and  
our communities.*

## Our Board

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For information on how you can help  
support New Haven Youth and Family  
Services, contact Doreen Quinn at  
(760) 630-4035 or visit our website at  
[www.newhavenyfs.org/giving](http://www.newhavenyfs.org/giving).

## Friends Bring the Fun



*Students get the chance to enjoy positive adventures thanks to the Friends of New Haven.*

**P**ing pong...Foosball...Cornhole. Lately, it's all fun and games for the Friends of New Haven, whose new Recreation and Leisure Committee is making plans to outfit each residence with board games, game tables and sporting equipment. An alternative activity to television and video games, the engaging additions to our home environments also promote exercise, sportsmanship and the development of positive interpersonal relationships among the housemates.

The Recreation and Leisure Committee is a fantastic complement to the Activities Committee, which with an increased budget has organized some of New Haven's most popular excursions to date, including snowboarding, trampoline cage ball, a firehouse dinner, a De Luz hiking trip, deep-sea fishing, a Chargers day, surf school and more to come. Donations for tickets or passes to theme and amusement parks are welcomed.

## The Future Looks Bright for Six New Haven Grads

*(continued from page 1)*

Christian S. will reunite with his grandparents and attend college to study business management with a focus on electronics. Caring and eager to help those in need, Christian says the staff at New Haven was committed to helping him through hard times and especially supported him during his fight against addiction.

Brandon H. will live with his mom as he works in a game shop to save money for college, where he will study to be a math teacher. Valuing people for who they are on the inside, Brandon says, "New Haven taught me how to make friends and how to be a kind person." Cory G. will also reunite with his family and attend a local college to study landscape design. Athletic and helpful, Cory says New Haven helped him "learn how to get over my sadness."

Khiobon M. will join the job corps and then attend college to study music production. A gentle soul with a kind heart, Khiobon has learned how to be healthy, noting that "in life you have to be able to make fun of yourself sometimes or you'll just fear yourself."

Non-judgmental and appreciative of people's differences, Christian P. intends to join the military and "follow the light." Known for his sense of humor and deep appreciation of music, Stephen N. will study science at a local college.