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"More of the Best of the Valley"

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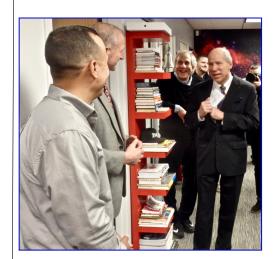
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Peralta Design holds grand reopening in Shelton

By Patricia Villers

SHELTON - Peralta Design, a company that specializes in launching businesses to the next level, recently relocated its offices from downtown to Enterprise Corporate Park.



On Monday owner Ramon Peralta and his staff welcomed clients, Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce representatives, and community members to an open house to celebrate the move.

Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce President Bill Purcell, Mayor Mark Lauretti and Robert Scinto congratulated Peralta on the grand reopening.

"It's an evolution, it's growth, and it's what Shelton has stood for, for years," Lauretti said.

Peralta had operated out of a Howe Avenue location for six years. Scinto offered Peralta his support. "It takes a leap of faith to grow a company," he said.

Peralta thanked Scinto and said, "It's a testament to the community to look within to find talent. Despite doom and gloom [on the national level] we have an opportunity to grow here."



The 1,200-square-foot space is at 2 Enterprise Drive, Suite 418.

Peralta is a 2016 recipient of the Gold Seal Award by the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce and a board member of the Valley United Way.

According to information on its Facebook page, Peralta Design's services include:

- Advertising
- Digital Illustration
- Exhibition Graphics
- Identity/Logo/Branding
- Outdoor Advertising
- Point-of-Purchase Display
- Print/Brochure/Collateral
- Sales Presentations



From left: Shelton Mayor Mark Lauretti, developer Bob Scinto, Ramon Peralta, and Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce President Bill Purcell cut a ribbon Monday at the grand reopening of Peralta Design in Shelton. / Photo by Nancie Gray

A story about ice skates, and 'people helping people' in Ansonia

By Patricia Villers

ANSONIA - Ice would be nice.

For folks who are ready to have fun skating and get some outdoor exercise, that is.

Last year the city set up a portable ice skating rink for residents to enjoy at Nolan Athletic Complex. The city held a grand opening for the rink Feb. 17, 2016 after three postponements due to inclement weather. It was only used a few times.

So far this winter there has not been enough below-freezing temperatures to support the ice rink.

When will the ice rink be opened? Rich DiCarlo, the city's events coordinator, hopes for the best, weather-wise. "Unfortunately we are at the mercy of Mother Nature and Jack Frost. I would like to make an open invitation to Jack Frost to visit Ansonia any time," he said with a chuckle.



But in the meantime there is good news: donated ice skates are available for free to residents who would like a pair. They are located at City Hall in Mayor David S. Cassetti's office. Story continues on page 2



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It felt like early Spring Wednesday afternoon on the Ansonia Riverwalk. No complaints here!

Photo by Patricia Villers

A story about ice skates, and 'people helping people' in Ansonia

Continued from Page 1

The skate saga started several weeks ago when resident Phyllis Hyde at Barb's Corner consignment shop contacted me about a pile of new and almost-new skates at the West Main Street store.

An employee of Fairco-Greentree Recycling, Braden Jenkins, had been dropping them off, she said.

Jenkins, a Trumbull resident, stops in and takes clothing that doesn't sell and recycles it, Hyde said. He also picks up items dropped off in clothing collection bins in Fairfield County communities including Bridgeport.

The income generated helps sponsor youth memberships at Wakeman Boys & Girls Club in Bridgeport and Southport, according to the company website.

When Jenkins finds skates he brings them to the store. At last count there were 28 pairs available at City Hall, both hockey and figure-style.

"Any pair of skates [I come across] I'll bring them here," Jenkins said in an interview at the consignment shop. "I think they're going to make a lot of kids happy."

Hyde added, "It's all about community, people helping people."

The idea for donating skates began last year when the rink first opened. Take a look at the <u>Valley-Voice newsletter from last February</u> to see its humble beginnings...



Ansonia resident Phyllis Tortorello and Fairco-Greentree Recycling employee Braden Jenkins hold donated ice skates collected at Barb's Corner consignment shop in Ansonia.

Seymour School District named to College Board Advanced Placement Honor Roll

The Seymour Public School District has received national recognition this week as one of 433 school districts in the United States and Canada to be named to the 7th Annual Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Roll by the College Board.

The College Board is a nonprofit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. The AP District Honor Roll recognizes school districts for increasing AP access to students.

Students who take AP courses have the opportunity to earn college credit which decreases college costs. Those who have taken at least



Seymour High School

one AP course had higher college course grades, and are more likely to graduate from college within four years.

To qualify for the AP Honor Roll, a district must work to broaden the pool of students taking Advanced Placement classes while also maintaining or improving the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP exams.

To see more, please see the article in the New Haven Register by

Jean Falbo-Sosnovich

For more information, contact Rich Kearns at RKearns@seymourschools.org



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e-mail: thevalley-voicect.blogspot.com
Web: www.thevalley-voicect.net