

## Students learn human costs of war

EAST GREENBUSH —Tech Valley High School juniors—some of whom are close to the age of the men and women fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan—are answering a tough question as part of their latest project: What are the costs of war for soldiers returning home?

The students are hearing from veterans of a variety of wars and studying known troubled areas for veterans, such as unemployment, finances, medical and mental health and family problems. They will then use the information to write collective creative articles that demonstrate their understanding of a veteran's perspective and ways of coping with the demands of life when they return from duty, said teacher Mary VanHoomissen in a release.

Veterans will be in the school talking with students on February 23 and 25 at 11:50 a.m.



Photo contributed  
Chatham veteran Randy Kautto spoke to Tech Valley High School students as part of their research into the costs of war for soldiers.

The students, Ms. VanHoomissen said, have already seen the one man production about the troubles of a returning veteran, "The Things They Carried," and are currently reading the novel of the same title by Tim O'Brien.

Toward the end of the project, she said, the students will talk with the creators of the renowned Soldier Billboard Project and develop ideas for

projects that can raise awareness of the plight of veterans locally.

Almost all of the students taking part in the project know someone directly who has served in the military and been deployed.

"There is a great complexity involved with modern warfare and the toll it takes on many people," said Ms. VanHoomissen.

## Darrow School hosts open house

NEW LEBANON—Darrow School, an independent, college-preparatory boarding and day school, will host an open house Saturday, March 6, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event includes a full information session, an in-depth discussion with faculty, lunch with students and faculty, a Q&A with current students, a performance by the Darrow Chorus and tours of Darrow's historic Shaker campus. This year, open house participants are invited to get a taste of the Darrow experience by attending a class. Choices include music, English, science and art; all are taught in Darrow's hands-on style, with

teachers using real-world examples and active exercises to bring the course material to life, according to a release from the school.

Visitors are also invited to stay for the Darrow Theater Workshop's 3 p.m. performance of three one-act plays, including Acceptance, an original drama written by student Tim O'Donoghue '11. The performance is free and open to the public.

During the campus tours, guests can view student exhibits in Darrow's state-of-the-art, 12,000-square-foot Joline Arts Center and can visit the School's

Environmental Center, an example of green building technology that has been chosen for six consecutive years as a stop on the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association's National Solar Tour.

Visitors will also learn about Darrow's sustainability program, which is incorporated across the curriculum and is embodied in its Living Machine, a cutting-edge, all-natural wastewater treatment facility.

To register for the Open House, send an e-mail to [admission@darrowschool.org](mailto:admission@darrowschool.org) or go to the website [www.darrowschool.org/openhouse](http://www.darrowschool.org/openhouse).

## College announces board meeting dates

GREENPORT—Columbia-Greene Community College has announced that its board of

15, 4:30 p.m.; April 19, 6:30 p.m.; May 17, 6:30 p.m.; June 21, 6:30 p.m.; July 19, 6:30

November 15, 4:30 p.m.; and December 20, 4:30 p.m.

Meetings will be held in the

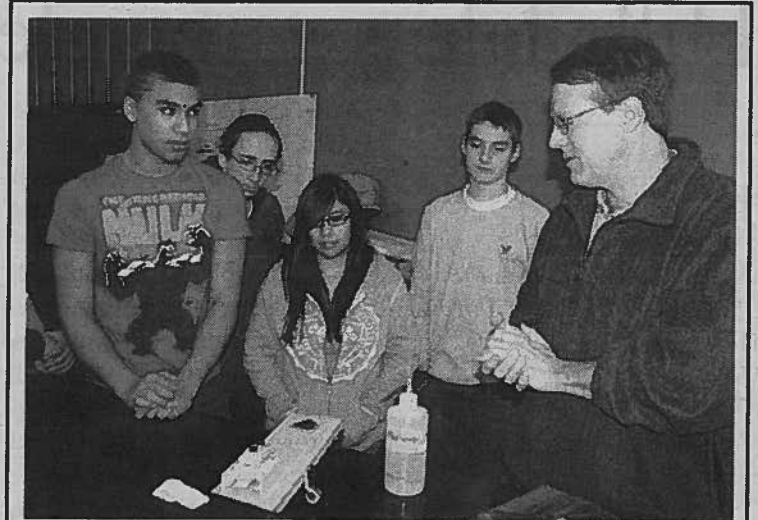


Photo contributed

### Student teaching

RPI doctoral student Todd Nelson discusses solar electricity with Tech Valley High students (l-r) Max Morris, from Ihabod Crane; Luke Pullen, Wynantskill; Annmarie Pryor, Brunswick; and Jesse Hunziker, Hoosic Valley. The RPI students conducted workshops on fuel cells and how they work.



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