



Presented by



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dennis Buden, Tournament Director
(860) 558-0514
dennis@goldenkielbasa.org

Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open Raises \$10,000 for Local Veterans

*120 Golfers Support Vets; Event Highlighted by Ceremonies Honoring
Tuskegee Airman Connie Nappier, Jr.*

New Britain, Conn., October 3, 2013 – Some 120 golfers and nearly 200 post-golf dinner guests came out in force in New Britain on Friday, September 27, showing their support for local veterans to the tune of \$10,000 raised at the Fifth Annual Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open charity golf tournament and dinner.

The event, presented by Farmington Bank and hosted by the Disabled American Veterans, Hardware City Chapter 8 (DAV), once again affirmed its place as Central Connecticut's signature charity golf tournament benefitting veterans. Proceeds from the event benefit the DAV, House of Heroes Connecticut and Friends of Fisher House Connecticut.

The day and evening were highlighted by ceremonies honoring Tuskegee Airman and New Britain resident Connie Nappier, Jr. Nappier, a Hartford native, was a flight officer with the segregated 477th Bomb Group of the famed air corps, which served the nation during World War II with honor and distinction despite facing enormous obstacles and being subjected to severe racial discrimination.

"It was a fine time to be allowed to stand here and get recognition for having served," said Mr. Nappier. "When I volunteered many years ago many folks tried to make you believe that African Americans were not really Americans, but we knew better."

With about a dozen family and friends looking on along with the large gathering of supporters, Mr. Nappier was saluted by State Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Linda Schwartz, City of New Britain Mayor Tim O'Brien and Connecticut Veterans History Project Director Eileen Hurst.

Also at the ceremonies, Nappier was designated an Honorary Knight of the Order of St. Michael, a prestigious award from the Army Aviation Association of America. DAV Chapter 8 Commander Ron Pelletier presented a \$1,000 check to the Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation in Mr. Nappier's name.

Golden Kielbasa 2-of-2

Additional major sponsors of the Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open include AT&T, Stanley Black & Decker, Okay Industries, Tomasso Group, Hospital of Central Connecticut, Creed Law Firm, Polish Falcons Nest #88, Paul A. Shaker Farmingdale Funeral Home, Franco-American War Veterans Post #26 and Members of the Paul and Mary Zuk Family. In-kind and barbeque sponsors include Sir Speedy Printing & Marketing Services of New Britain, Smokin' with Chris, Martin Rosol's, the Aqua Turf Club, VFW Post #511, Joe's Cigar Shop of Rocky Hill, Rogo Distributors and Hartford Distributors.

For more information on the Golden Kielbasa Veterans Open, please contact Tournament Director Dennis Buden at dennis@goldenkielbasa.org or 860-558-0514, or visit www.goldenkielbasa.org.