



## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
Pomperaug Regional School District 15  
Dr. Frank H. Sippy, Superintendent of Schools  
203-758-8259 ext. 110

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### **Pomperaug High School's Tim C. Wins 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at National History Day Competition in Washington, DC**

June 19, 2012, Middlebury/Southbury, CT— Pomperaug High School freshman Tim C. received third place at the National History Day Competition for his Senior Individual Exhibit on the Waterbury Radium Girls from World War I.

The competition was held at the University of Maryland on June 10-14, 2012.

Tim's project, entitled "Radium Girls: Tragedy Leading to Industrial Reform", won third prize in the Senior Individual Exhibit category. All projects at this year's competition were researched and designed based on this year's theme: *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History*.

Tim's exhibit was the only Connecticut project chosen to be



displayed at the National Museum of American History Behring Center on June 13. Students, parents, teachers and the public enjoyed these educational displays throughout the day and during the National History Night reception.

United States Senator Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut made a special stop by to visit Tim's exhibit at the museum and presented him with a certificate. Tim and the Region 15 National History Day Advisor, Mrs. Sharon Wlodarczyk were also interviewed by the chief editor of The National Endowment of the Humanities who is writing an article for their September issue.

A three-year National History Day alumnus and a past finalist at the National Competition in the junior division, Tim dedicated his project on the Radium Girls of Waterbury to his Aunt Mae, nearly 106 years old and the last surviving Radium Girl. Tim grew up hearing about his Aunt Mae's work in a Waterbury factory as a watch dial painter. At the state contest, he also received the senior level special award: *Outstanding Entry in Connecticut History*, sponsored by The Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford.

"It has been a wonderful week for all of us, and we are so pleased that Tim has honored Region 15 with this recognition," said Mrs. Wlodarczyk. "Please join me in congratulating him on a job well done!"

National History Day inspires children through exciting competitions and transforms teaching through project-based curriculum and instruction. It is a year-long academic program focused on historical research for 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.