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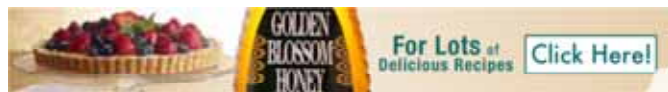
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Special Weather Statement - Northern Fairfield (Connecticut)

Current Conditions:

Fog/mist, 62.0°F (16.7°C)

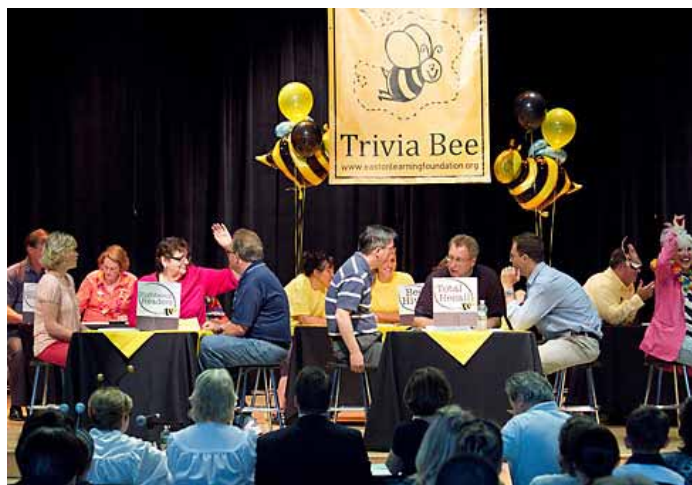
Weekly forecast...



## ELF Trivia Bee packs them in

Written by Brad Durrell

Friday, 28 May 2010 20:24



Teams compete on the Samuel Staples Elementary School stage in the second annual ELF Townwide Trivia Bee. (Photo courtesy of Hire Imagination, Shannon Calvert)

Intrigue and comedy were on display during the second annual Townwide Trivia Bee on May 20 at Samuel Staples Elementary School.

When the emcee, Barlow Head of School Tom McMorran, spotted a cell phone on stage near player Gary Simone, he quickly grabbed the phone and put it elsewhere for safekeeping in a very public fashion.

"We have a problem," McMorran said while staring at Simone, town parks and recreation director. Simone — and the audience — laughed.

The two-hour affair involved 36 teams of three players competing against each other to answer questions on such topics as chemistry, local speed limits, sports, and pop culture.

Who was the 2009 American Idol winner?

Well, all six Trivia Bee teams on stage at the time knew the answer was "Kris Allen."

What was the real last name of civil rights activist Malcolm X?

No player on stage was able to provide the correct answer of "Malcolm Little."

The Trivia Bee is a fund-raiser for the nonprofit Easton Learning Foundation (ELF). The goal is to bring the town together to have a good time, test people's knowledge of the important and not-so-important, and raise money to boost the schools.

Teams paid \$300 each to compete, either with their own contributions or through outside donations. Many sponsors supported the event, and advertisements were sold in a program.

Bernadette Waterman, ELF president, said while having a competition over trivia may seem ironic, the cause was a serious one.

"Tonight is really about celebrating something that is very important to us — our children," Waterman told the crowd at the start of the event.

First Selectman Thomas A. Herrmann delivered the official rules by briefcase. "Rule number one — have fun," Herrmann told the packed auditorium.

The audience and players obliged.

Clever names, outfits



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