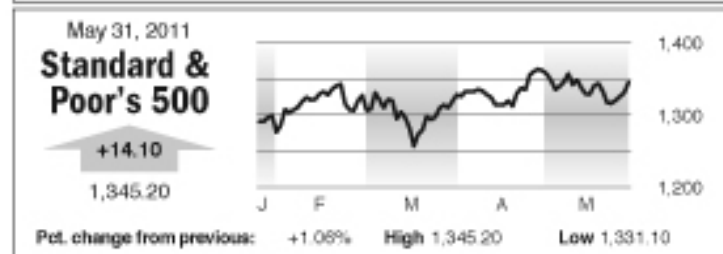
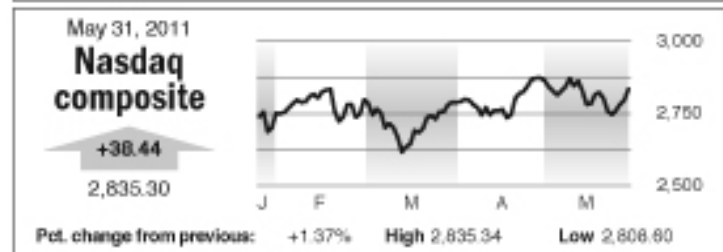
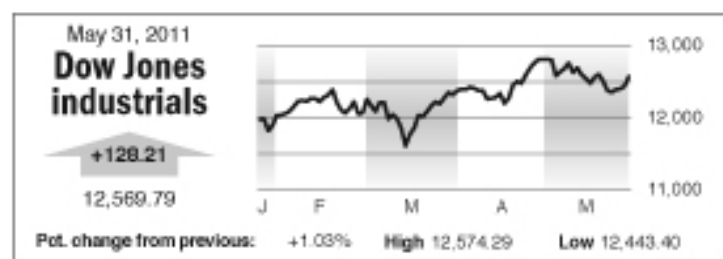


# BUSINESS

## The Hour

### A DAY ON WALL STREET



### STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Company	Sector	Yesterday's			Chng	Div.	Yield	PE	52-week	
		High	Low	Close					High	Low
AT&T Inc	N	31.65	31.32	31.56	+27	1.72	5.4	9	31.94	23.88
Aetna	N	44.12	43.32	43.68	+09	.60	1.4	10	46.01	25.00
ArchCh	N	36.19	35.40	36.15	+76	.80	2.2	13	42.58	28.87
AsburyA	N	16.81	16.64	16.80	+36			10	20.12	9.69
AvisBudg	O	17.87	17.23	17.59	+16			17	19.49	8.57
Baldw	A	1.37	1.32	1.33	-06			dd	1.80	.83
BoltTech	O	14.10	13.67	13.72	-34			20	15.35	8.09
CablvsnNY	N	35.64	35.10	35.52	+62	.60f	1.7	27	38.08	22.02
CampSp	N	34.84	34.57	34.75	+11	1.16	3.3	14	37.59	32.66
Corning	N	20.29	19.89	20.15	+28	.20	1.0	9	23.43	15.45
Crane	N	49.24	48.38	49.19	+61	.92	1.9	17	51.15	28.69
Diageo	N	85.28	84.66	85.09	+84	2.46e	2.9		84.74	61.00
DowChm	N	36.50	35.55	36.13	+53	1.00f	2.8	19	42.23	22.42
EMCOR	N	30.69	30.18	30.37	+15			dd	32.75	22.29
EdgarOnl	O	1.25	1.18	1.24	+04			dd	1.80	.75
FactsetR	N	110.91	108.72	110.86	+2.80	1.08f	1.0	32	112.40	64.89
FstBcPR rs	N	5.07	4.69	5.06	-06			dd	21.75	3.60
FrontierCm	N	8.89	8.81	8.85	+04	.75	8.5	63	9.84	6.96
Gartner	N	39.15	38.62	39.03	+47			37	43.39	22.72
GenElec	N	19.72	19.48	19.64	+20	.60f	3.1	17	21.65	13.75
InteractBrk	O	17.35	17.03	17.16	+04	.40a	2.3	cc	19.49	15.23
IntPap	N	31.45	30.65	31.22	+31	1.05f	3.4	12	33.01	19.33
MarshM	N	31.07	30.52	30.67	-09	.88f	2.9	18	31.10	20.21
MStewrt	N	5.49	5.10	5.23	+09			dd	6.06	3.40
MeadWvco	N	34.02	33.40	34.02	+50	1.00	2.9	21	34.51	20.81
NoestUt	N	35.37	34.95	35.24	+22	1.10	3.1	15	36.47	25.11
NorthropG	N	65.49	64.72	65.29	+40	2.00f	3.1	9	72.50	53.50
Olin	N	24.16	23.51	24.02	+40	.80	3.3	10	27.16	17.25
PerkElm	N	28.00	27.39	27.69	-02	.28	1.0	8	28.75	18.69
PitnyBw	N	23.94	23.76	23.89	+12	1.48	6.2	11	26.36	19.06
Praxair	N	106.23	104.44	105.84	+82	2.00	1.9	26	108.45	73.84
priceline	O	515.19	505.15	515.19	+13.75			45	561.88	173.32
StarGas	N	5.48	5.40	5.43	+02	.31	5.7	10	6.02	4.22
SturmRug	N	22.02	21.25	22.02	+91	.33e	1.5	15	24.05	12.66
Terex	N	29.95	29.02	29.65	+60			dd	38.50	16.79
ThomsonR	N	39.53	38.68	38.97	+18	1.24	3.2	26	42.15	33.68
UBS AG	N	19.37	19.10	19.32	+29				20.08	12.26
UtdhthGp	N	48.95	48.35	48.95	+65	.65f	1.3	11	51.46	27.13
VerizonCm	N	36.99	36.67	36.93	+26	1.95	5.3	22	38.95	25.79
WldW Ent	N	10.48	10.24	10.40	+02	.48m	4.6	21	17.21	9.99
Xerox	N	10.21	10.05	10.21	+21	.17	1.7	21	12.08	7.67

EXCHANGE KEY: N=New York, O=Nasdaq, A=American

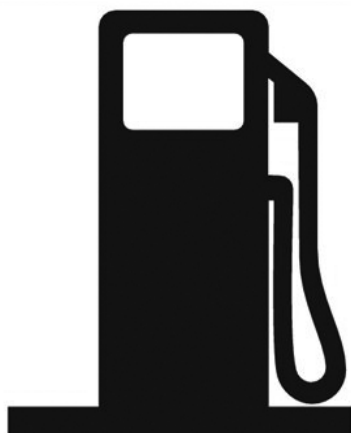
## Gas prices continue to drop

**NORWALK**  
GasBuddy.com

Average retail gasoline prices in Connecticut have fallen 4.4 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$4.10 per gallon on Sunday. This compares with the national average that has fallen 3.2 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.77 per gallon, according to gasoline price website ConnecticutGasPrices.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Connecticut during the past week, prices Sunday were \$1.19 per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 12.9 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 13.7 cents per gallon during the last month and stands \$1.04/g higher than this day one year ago.

GasBuddy.com operates GasBuddy.com, ConnecticutGasPrices.com, and more than 225 other local gasoline price-tracking websites that follow prices at more than 125,000 gasoline stations in the United States and Canada.



# Same problems, same solutions

The Alternative Board helps businesses reach new levels by addressing common problems

**NORWALK**  
By CHRIS BOSAK  
Hour Staff Writer

The way Vernon "Buck" Miller Jr. sees it, 75 to 80 percent of all business problems are the same, regardless of the line of business.

Many of those issues are the center of discussion at meetings of The Alternative Board of Southwestern CT a business coaching and networking system that utilizes a peer approach. Each board is made up of CEOs, presidents and other principals of privately owned companies. The system also includes private coaching sessions.

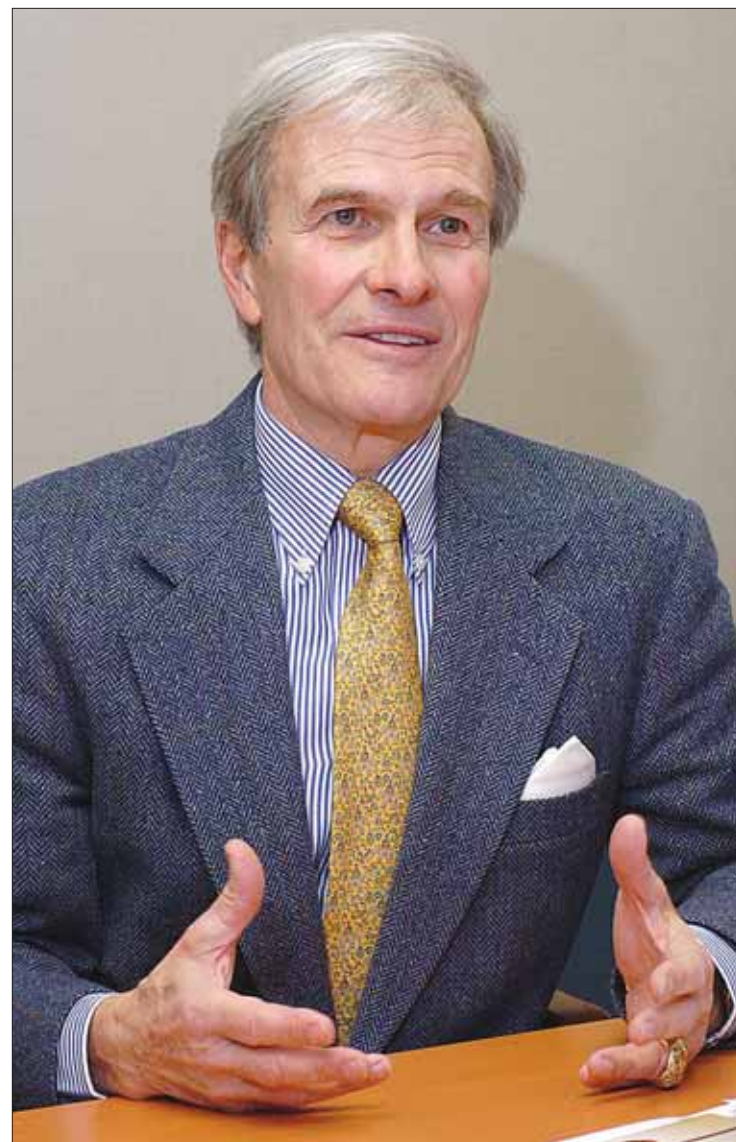
"We help you avoid making the same mistake once," said Miller, who owns and operates the local The Alternative Board franchise out of his Wilton office.

Miller's territory spans from Greenwich to Bridgeport and up to Wilton and Ridgefield. The franchise includes proprietary business coaching tools. There are about 250 The Alternative Board business coaches in the U.S., Canada and England.

The boards meet once a month for four hours to discuss business problems and solutions. There is also a one-hour private coaching session with Miller. The boards are made up of eight to 10 local CEOs and principals.

"The Army says you can control only 10 people in combat — and this is combat. It's a give and take," he said. "There is usually 100 percent attendance. They bond with other board members and want to help others and get help themselves."

Miller recalls the success he enjoyed through his involvement in a peer-advisory board environment when he was in the shipping industry in Greenwich. When a deal for his shipping company fell through, Miller turned to his experience on that peer-advisory board and started The Alternative Board of Southwestern CT in 2005.



Hour photo/ALEX VON KLEYDORFF  
Vernon "Buck" Miller Jr., founder of The Alternative Board of Southwestern CT, talks about his business recently.

He currently runs two boards and he said the personalities of the boards could not be more different.

"One board is forceful and one board is laid back. If you don't do what you said you were going to do ... the boards react in different ways," Miller said. "My job is more art than science. I have to mesh personalities to work together."

Sometimes Miller has no idea where the discussions will lead. When several company principals start talking, sometimes magic happens, he said.

"He just gave me a \$2 million idea," Miller said a participant shouted once. "Sometimes the ideas come out of left field. There's value

in the discussion for everyone."

Todd Rissel of software company e2Value Inc. in Stamford turned to The Alternative Board to get advice from other entrepreneurs who could relate to his business issues.

"I looked for the right combination of advisers and professionals to provide clarity as well as help us outline our priorities," Rissel said. "The experience has paid off many times over both professionally and personally."

Miller's boards have been made up of retailers, human relations professionals, architects, attorneys, builders, manufacturers and other industries.

"It really covers the gamut," he said. "It strikes me that the issues are the same."

## BRIEFS

### SCORE offers small business workshop

STAMFORD — "Building & Maintaining an E-Commerce Website," a two-hour SCORE workshop, starts at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 11, at UConn's Stamford branch. Two executives from Jumar Marketing LLC will explain how to design an effective website, pick the right technology and payment systems, attract customers to your site, and monitor their shopping behavior.

Fees are \$25 per person, \$35 for two from the same company. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. Register directly at [www.scorenorwalk.org](http://www.scorenorwalk.org) or call (203) 847-7348.

### Hood to speak at FCPRA meeting

NORWALK — PR industry expert Julia Hood will be the keynote speaker for the Fairfield County Public Relations Association's annual meeting and networking event at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 15, at the Shore & Country Club.

Hood is the newly appointed president of the Arthur W. Page Society, a select membership organization for C-suite public relations and corporate communications executives. She will share her industry insight on social media trends and successes, as well as the value of being part of a local PR and communications organization.

Networking will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the

luncheon program runs from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$40 for member pre-registrants, \$50 for non-member pre-registrants, and \$60 for all walk-ins. This event is free with a new FCPRA membership and sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information and to register, log on to [www.fcpra.org](http://www.fcpra.org).

### ACP to hold meeting in Norwalk

NORWALK — ACP International of Southern Connecticut/Westchester N.Y. will present a program with Jennifer Scott "Leveraging Social Media - Taking Your Brand Online" from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, June 7, at 301 Merritt 7, 1st floor cafeteria.

The fee is \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. For more information, call (203) 354-6601.

### Norwalk Chamber to honor small businesses

NORWALK — The Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2011 Small Business Awards Luncheon from noon to 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, at Norwalk Inn & Conference Center. Cost is \$45 or members and \$360 for a table of eight. Paul Forster, founder and CEO of Indeed.com, will be the featured speaker.

For more information or to register, call (203) 866-2521.

## Business News

If you have business news, fax items to 840-1802 or e-mail to [business@thehour.com](mailto:business@thehour.com). Personnel items appear on Wednesdays and Fridays.