



Coginchaug Valley Education Foundation Report

FALL 2023

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1

CVEF Board and Committee Members

Executive Committee

Nancy Earls, President
Tina Gossner, Vice President
Liz Conroy, Treasurer
Merrill Adams, Secretary

Members at Large

Betsy White Booz
Bill Hall
Maggie Peterson
Claudia Rovelli

Ex-Officio

Doug Schuch

Committee Members

Martin Anderson
Rebecca Anderson
John Biddiscombe
Aggie Cahill
Anne Doyle
Sharon Griffin
Tom Hennick
Norm Hicks
Patti Holden
Jen Huddleston
Anne Levine
Karen Meiman
Christine Michaud
Sue D'Orvilliers
Nancy Senick

Supporting
lifelong learning
in Durham and
Middlefield.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Dear Friends of CVEF,

Warm greetings from the CVEF Board and our Committee members. As the year-end approaches, we at CVEF look forward to our annual January retreat, a chance to review our accomplishments and discuss where to next focus our energies and efforts.

On October 12, we honored our 2023 grantees and Howard Kelley Community Service Award recipient. A crowd of 50+ gathered to celebrate and honor those who give time to make our towns better places to live. At events like this, we are reminded of the creativity and commitment to community that is so evident in our friends and neighbors.



This year we are proud to cite several grants that involve our grantees, but also reach the larger community. The CRHS ECO Club will continue to create

environmental awareness by adding additional community recycling collection sites. The Strong School Makerspace project will collaborate with local businesses to design and make products that will benefit them.



Our hope moving forward is to form partnerships with local groups who share similar missions. Please contact us to discuss any ideas you may have. If our mission of lifelong learning appeals to you, consider joining one of our committees.

Someone once said, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." Certainly, this year's programs are visible proof, and your involvement as participants and supporters allows this to be possible. We literally could not accomplish our mission without you.

Hope to see you at our popular Talk of the Towns event on March 23. Mark your busy calendars and thank you, as always, for your support.

With much gratitude,

Nancy Earls, President, CVEF

2023 CVEF GRANTS

CVEF has awarded over \$188,000 in grant funds to some 150 projects and events over the past 15 years. This year's eight grantees, along with the 2023 Howard Kelley Community Service Award recipient, were recognized for their achievements at a joint reception held on October 12.

➤ **STEM Camp:** DMYFS and DMLWC will run 8 individual programs and 2 week-long summer STEM camps for ages 7-13.

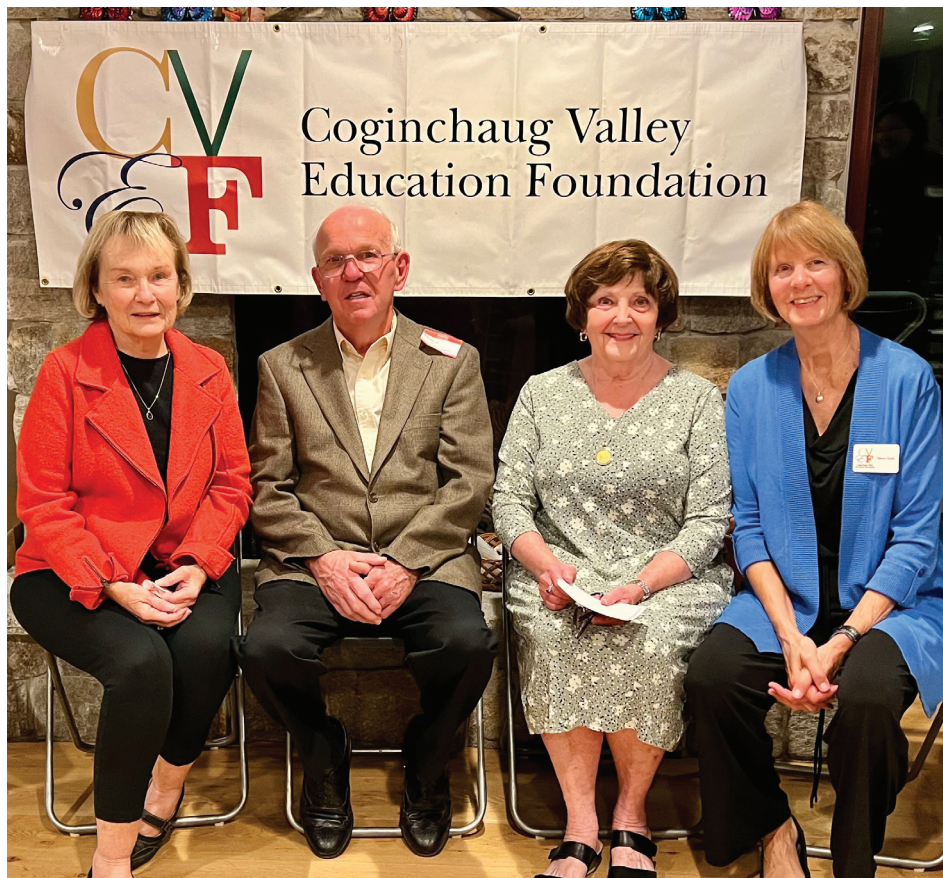
➤ **Teen Book Boxes:** Durham Public Library and CRHS, via a collaborative effort, will disseminate the DPL's individualized book box subscription program through CRHS.

➤ **Community Recycling:** CRHS' ECO Club will establish additional recycling collection stations, as well as expand recycling options and educate citizens.

➤ **Brewster Communication Board:** A Communication Board will be installed in the playground to enhance expressive skills for neurotypical and neurodiverse individuals.

➤ **Community Connections:** Students involved in the Maker-Space project will collaborate with local businesses to design and create actual products that will be of use to them.

➤ **Community Center Atrium Garden Restoration:** Durham Garden Club will renovate the garden with native pollinator plants and create a learning garden for the community.



(l-r) Howard Kelley's widow, Renee Kelley; Ralph Sayward; Merrill Adams; and Nancy Earls.

Our 2023 **Howard Kelley Community Service Award** went to Middlefield resident **Ralph Sayward**. He was honored for his years of volunteerism in the town, most especially as part of the Levi Coe Library Board of Directors, where he has been a member since 1999 and is currently Board president. Nominated by Middlefield's Director/Municipal Agent for the Elderly, Sue D'Orvilliers, she noted, "He is committed; he is dedicated; he is unassuming...he just does it all."



Nominate Someone you Know for the Howard Kelley Award
CVEF is always looking for nominations for the Howard Kelley Community Service Award. For more information and nominating guidelines, please visit coginchaugvef.org/howard-kelley-award

Talk of the Towns

This popular CVEF event, features four interesting speakers from our community.

Saturday
**March 23,
2024**



- ▶ **Who Gives A Hoot?:** Cub Scout Pack 33 Scouts will be educated regarding Connecticut owls and conservation efforts through activities and speakers.
- ▶ **Fashion Design Sewing Club:** Three teachers at Memorial School will offer an after-school fashion design sewing club for students in grades 3-5.



Our Giving Community - CVEF recently honored the memory of Jane Parmelee, one of the owners of Indian Springs Golf Club, by planting a native shrub. Jane was a kind soul with boundless energy and a smile for everyone. She was often seen on the golf course. Indian Springs has been a long time supporter of CVEF.



Tina Gossner (CVEF) and Jen Huddleston, daughter of Jane Parmelee.



Peach Pit Foundation to match donor gifts

The Peach Pit Foundation, one of our longtime loyal supporters, has generously committed to a dollar for dollar match of up to \$5,000 of any donation made **before January 15, 2024**. Double the power of your gift through the wonderful commitment of the Peach Pit Foundation. Please consider this as you make your annual gift to CVEF. We appreciate the ongoing generosity of the Peach Pit Foundation.

Peach Pit
foundation

Community Donations, July 2022 - June 2023

Diamond (\$1,000 and above)

Richard and Merrill Adams*
Jay and Liz Conroy*
George Eames IV*
Daryl and Renee Edwards*
Martha and Randall Luther*
Suman Ravuri and Sarah Downs*
Maura Ryan

Platinum (\$500-\$999)

Robert and Betsy White Booz*
Mark and Tina Gossner*

Gold (\$250-\$499)

Martin and Becky Anderson*
Michael and Catherine Bisceglia*
Ralph and Katharine Chase*
Ron Claveloux*
Marc and Dina D'Amato*
Larry and Anne Levine*
Bob and Maggie Peterson*
David Miner and Penny Robiner*
John Miscione and Kristen Earls
Robert and Diane Moore*
Gary and Penny Sawicki*

Silver (\$100-\$249)

Joseph and Bernadette Basiel*
Matthew Berry and Nancy Senick*

John Biddiscombe and Gail Gorton*
Casey Cordes and Kary Strickland*
Jack and Anne Doyle*
Nancy Earls*
Richard and Jane Eriksen*
Jonathan Field*
David and Christine Foster*
Victor Friedrich and Karen Otte
Michael and Susan Good*
Thomas and Nancy Hennick*
Norman and Charlene Hicks
Rubin Hirsch and Leslie Bulion*
John and Pam Hogarth*
Robert and Marilyn Horn*
Gary Johnson*
Brad and Lori Jubelirer*
Edward and Pamela Lang*
Fran Ludwig*
William and Lorrie Martin*
Stefan and Susan Michael*
Anne Mueller*
Allan Poole and Nancy Winship-Poole*
Durward Seible and Lori Martin*
Martha Stone*
Jonathon Swift and Anne Cassady*
David and Jan Wenzel*

Etzie Heyl*
Lisa Larsen
Maya and Stephen Liss

Bronze (Up to \$100)

Susan Abbe*
Sarah Atwell*
Peter and Vicki Berry*
Jonathon Best and Peggy Carey Best*
Pat and MaryAnn Boord*
William and Susan Breck*
Tom and Denise Brennan
William and Jill Gaffey*
Bill Hall**
John and Jackie Hastings*
Robin and Terry Heath
Clay and Simone Howe*
Edward and Peggy Manjuck*
Scott and Jen Penney*
Frank and Lucy Petrella
Rob and Doreen Raney
Mark Stephens and Gail Christie*
Robert and Susan VanDerzee*
Bronwyn Commins
Christine Michaud and Matt Taber
Julia McCutchen
Lainey and Robert Melvin
Jeff and Claudia Rovelli

* 5 years or more of giving ** In memory of Frances Gemma and Jackie Stannard

Business and Community Organization Partners, July 2022 - June 2023

Platinum (\$500-\$999)

Country Flower Farms

Gold (\$250-\$499)

Brenna Zettergren Memorial
Foundation
Chapman Manufacturing
Conroy Orthodontics
Durham Fair Foundation
Durham Manufacturing Company
Peerless Construction
The Lyman Farm, Inc.
The Springs Golf Course
William Raveis Real Estate & Home
Services

Silver (\$100-\$249)

A & J Liquor
Brenda's Main Street Feed
Center for Esthetic Dentistry
Durham Democratic Town Committee
Durham Dental
Durham Family Eye Care
Durham Market
Glazer Dental
Krauszer's
Larkin's Run
Middlefield Democratic Town
Committee
Middlefield Grocery

Pedals Smoothie and Juice Bar
Tenthorey Consulting, LLC
Therapeutic Massage Center
Uncle Bob's Flower & Garden

Bronze (Up to \$100)

Carmine's Pizza
Cozy Corner Restaurant & Pizza
Dean Autoworks, Inc.
Durham Healthmart Pharmacy
L & I Refrigeration, Inc.
Little Rooster
Midlea Garden Club
RLI Electric

Online donations are easy.

Go to www.coginchaugvef.org and click on



Like us on Facebook