



Spring/Summer 2010

## **DONORS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE! GRANTS IN ACTION**

Your donations truly make a difference in so many lives, and a perfect example could be seen firsthand on March 12 & 13, 2010. The Dental Mission of Mercy was held at the Aetna facility on Industrial Park Road in Middletown. We're proud that with your help we were able to make a \$5,000 grant to the Connecticut Foundation for Dental Outreach to support this fabulous program.

Three aspects of dental care are the focus of this event: the extent of the need for dental care and its importance to the underserved; the dental community in Connecticut truly cares and is willing to make extensive volunteer efforts to help; and the community-business leaders, state and municipal officials, civic groups, schools, and the general public care, recognize and respond to the

importance of dental health care in our community.

"This event focuses attention on the

importance of oral health care and the problems of access to care," said local orthodontist Dr. John J. Conroy. "We hope that legislators, business leaders and leaders of the dental community can continue to work together to address these issues and improve the overall dental health status of Connecticut's citizens."

Nationally, oral health problems are already responsible for more missed school days than any other health problem. 'Dental problems' are one of the main reasons cited that children visit emergency rooms during the day. Poor oral health jeopardizes their healthy growth, development and learning.

This year the event brought 1,700 dental and community volunteers together with 2,049 patients in two days. Now that's "Giving in Action!"



*Photos courtesy of  
Connecticut Mission  
of Mercy, Connecticut  
State Dental  
Association*

*"I am pleased to continue serving as Chair of the Community Foundation. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who will use their talents, expertise and love of Middlesex County for the benefit of enhancing the quality of life in our region. With these exceptional people I know we are offering solid leadership in meeting the needs of nonprofit organizations throughout Middlesex County."*

DAVID M. ROYSTON



## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS APPOINTED

**David M. Royston**, Principal of Dzialo, Pickett & Allen and Old Saybrook resident, has been elected for a second term as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

**Marcia Kalayjian** (Durham): Board Vice Chairman; Co-Chairman, Development/Communications Committee; Chairman, Nominating Committee

**John Biddiscombe** (Durham): Board Vice Chairman; Chairman, Grants Committee

**Susan Peters** (Portland): Treasurer; Chairman, Finance and Investment Committee

**Nancy Fischbach** (Deep River): Secretary

**Ralph H. Shaw II** (Middletown): Assistant Secretary

**Deborah Moore** (Killingworth): Co-Chairman, Development/Communications Committee

**Thomas Pastorello** (East Hampton): Chairman, Audit Committee

**David Director** (Cromwell): Chairman, MCCF Council of Business Partners

**Mark Richards** (Clinton): Chairman, Endowment Committee

Other Board members include: Janice Atkeson and William Chatman, both of Essex; Vincent Capece, Middletown; Anita Ford Saunders, Middletown; Judith Schoonmaker, Essex; and Richard Tomc of Middletown.

### Shoreline Resident Honored as Director Emeritus



The Board of Directors honored long time and retiring Board member, David Preston of Old Lyme, by electing him Director Emeritus. Mr. Preston was given this honor because of his extraordinary service and dedication to the Community Foundation over many years, particularly as co-chair of the Development/Communications Committee.

## NEW FACES AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

### Board of Directors

**Sharon Griffin**, a life-long resident of Middlesex County and former Grants Committee member, was elected to the Board of Directors. She is a Founding Member and Board member of the Coginchaug Valley Education Foundation, an active member of the Property Development Committee of Middlesex Habitat for Humanity, and a Trustee of the Peach Pit Foundation.



### Staff



**Thayer Talbott** joined MCCF on March 1st as Director of Programs and Operations.



**Mary Ann Lambert**, former Finance Director, has joined Structural Graphics in Essex as Controller. Cynthia presented Mary Ann with a beautiful THANK YOU! plate signed by the MCCF Board in recognition of her years of service to MCCF.

**Cheryl Champagne** appointed Director of Finance and began her duties March 15th.



### Grants Committee

**Bill Russell** and **Larry Marino**, both of Portland, have been appointed to the Grants Committee.



**GOOD PEOPLE – GIVING BACK – MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**



**We're on a MISSION and we need YOUR help!** Volunteers represent all ages and backgrounds, sharing their energy and resources to aid their friends and neighbors and to improve the quality of life wherever they are. National Volunteer Week occurred April 18th through April 24th. And though this week is specifically set aside to honor and thank volunteers, we think it's just not enough!

We at MCCF encourage you to remember volunteers throughout the year. Our goal is to take this recognition to a new level and make this an everyday occurrence! Let's honor these people – the very lifeblood of every organization and good cause – not just for seven days, but three hundred and sixty-five days. That's the least we can all do for the services and good works they do (without pay and with smiles on their faces)!

We are incredibly fortunate to have so many volunteers who support our mission in the Middlesex County community. The photos below don't do justice to ALL those who make a difference for the Community Foundation and for you. To our wonderful volunteers, a simple THANK YOU will never be enough.

Take a moment EVERY DAY to recognize those who give so selflessly to your communities....and consider becoming one of the many "Good People Doing Great Things".

Best regards,

*Cynthia*  
Cynthia H. Clegg

*MCCF Council of Business Partners: (L to R) Arlene Mazzotta, A.R. Mazzotta Employment Specialists; David Royston, MCCF Board Chairman; Laura Pedersen, A.R. Mazzotta Employment Specialists; David Preston, MCCF Board Member; Sheryl Sprague of Rushford Center, Inc.; Collin Burr, McCutcheon Burr & Sons; Marc Levin, Malloves Jewelers; and David Director, Connecticut Lighting Centers. Absent from the photo: John Sullivan, A&A Office Systems; Ted Rossi, The Rossi Companies; William McCann, Susan McCann and Shawn McCann, Best Cleaners; James Mahoney, Mahoney Sabol & Co.; David Shulman, Suburban Stationers; Dan Zimmerman, TagTeam Business Partners; Nancy Raczka and St Mary's Church of Portland and Congregation Adath Israel in Middletown of the Interfaith Golf Open Tournament.*



*MCCF Development Committee: (L to R) Laney Bank; Jane Harris; Gary Salva; Deb Moore; David Preston; Marcia Kalayjian; David Royston, MCCF Board Chairman; Judy Schoonmaker; Bill Chatman.*



*CT MOM volunteer Dr. John J. Conroy (center) with fellow Exchange Club of Middletown members Tom Nolan (left) & John Tischio (right.)*



*MCCF Swaim Arts Committee: (L to R) Bill Chatman; Ellen Lukens; Mel Ellis; Melissa Schilke; Lee McQuillan; Marco Gaylord.*



*Enjoying an afternoon at the MCCF Women & Girls Fund Donor Thank You Reception, Laura Pederson and Gail Gorton.*



*Strong supporters of MCCF, Sari and Howard Rosenbaum are being honored this year by the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce as Citizens of the Year. (photo courtesy of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce)*

# LASTING MEMORIES ~ LASTING IMPACT

Members of the Middlesex-New London Chapter of Connecticut State Music Teachers Association have created a fund in Memory of Karen A. Nelson at the Community Foundation.

Karen was a gifted pianist and dedicated and inspiring teacher and was tragically killed in an automobile accident in 2009. Her expertise in performance, teaching and adjudicating were well established throughout Connecticut and beyond. Karen held degrees in Piano Performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Yale School of Music. She continued her studies with Paul Baumgartner in Switzerland, with Leon Fleischer, and with Konrad Wolff. At the time of her death she was teaching students of all ages at her Westbrook studio, Brown University in Providence, and Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford.

Donations may be made to the Karen A. Nelson Memorial Fund at the Middlesex County Community Foundation either by check (payable to MCCF Karen Nelson Fund) or through the website: [middlesexcountycf.org](http://middlesexcountycf.org).



*A Lasting Memory for a Wonderful Friend, Teacher and Mentor  
Karen A. Nelson  
Memorial Fund*

A long-time resident of Durham, Herb Patterson was a kind, quiet man who made a deep, lasting impression on everyone he met. Herb attended Bowdoin College and then joined the Navy, reaching the rank of Captain of a PT boat during World War II.

Herb was known as a life-long philanthropist, volunteering throughout the community, serving on the Board of Directors at Middlesex Hospital and as Chairman of the Board at Durham Manufacturing, and actively supporting his church.

In honor of Herb's devotion to his community and his support of the many organizations working within the county, Herb's wife, Ellen, created the Herb Patterson Memorial Fund with the Community Foundation. Donations will be used to help improve the quality of life in Middlesex County, particularly in Durham and Middlefield, towns he dearly loved.

Donations may be made to the Herb Patterson Memorial Fund at the Middlesex County Community Foundation either by check (payable to the MCCF Herb Patterson Fund) or through the website: [middlesexcountycf.org](http://middlesexcountycf.org).



*Ellen Patterson and model of Navy PT Boat.  
A QUIET WAY – A "STRONG" IMPACT  
Herb Patterson Memorial Fund*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Sunday May 9 ~ Mother's Day

Remember the special woman in your life with a gift to the Fund for Women & Girls in their honor or memory.

### Monday May 17 – 10 to 11:30 AM

Listening Session for Non-Profit Boards & Executives

### Tuesday May 25 – 9:15 to Noon

Grants & Funding Workshop, Russell Library

### Monday October 4 – 9 AM to 3 PM

Governance & Fundraising Workshop

### Wednesday May 12 – 7 PM

Swaim Strings Concert  
The Ruth Montgomery All-City Strings Festival - Middletown High School

### Wednesday September 15 "CARNIVAL"

Enjoy a cruise on the *Becky Thatcher* and the musical "CARNIVAL" at the Goodspeed Opera House to benefit Middlesex County Community Foundation

### Webinars – 1 to 2:30 PM @ MCCF

Wednesday June 9

*50 Asks in 50 Weeks: How to Jumpstart Your Small Development Office*

Wednesday July 14 – *Legacy Giving*

*Building Blocks:*

*A Simple Approach to Attracting Long-Term Support*

Tuesday July 27 – *Developing a Planned*

*Giving Market Plan*

Thursday September 23 – *Power Shift:*

*Secrets to Success in the Digital Donor-Centric World*

Thursday October 7 – *Annual Campaign:*

*Raising More Money with Fewer Resources*

Tuesday November 16 – *Charity or*

*Social Service Business?  
The Road to Sustainability!*

Thursday December 9 – *The Law and*

*Nonprofits*

## HERE'S HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Community Foundation has a safe, easy way for you to donate by credit card. Just go to our website [www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org](http://www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org) and click on:

**Make A Donation**

Or use the enclosed envelope to mail a check the old fashioned way! Now, more than ever your donation will have a tremendous impact on the quality of life in Middlesex County.

Donate to our

**LIVE LOCAL GIVE LOCAL FUND!**

100% of the proceeds will be donated to our area nonprofits.



## SAFE SQUAD SETTING A HIGHER STANDARD: Students Stand United in the “No Bully Zone”

In the fall of 2009 Middletown’s Keigwin School launched “Safe Squad,” a “No Bully Zone” initiative of the Middlesex County Community Foundation’s Council of Business Partners in partnership with Rushford Center.



*Mauricio Salgar, Gabrielle’s of Centerbrook, Dave Royston and Dan Sullivan listen intently as students tell their stories*

Nikki Belton, Student Assistant Counselor, and a group of students, representing those who were on both the giving and receiving end of bullying, developed multiple projects to raise awareness on the impact bullying has on everyone. They also created the following mission statement:

*Safe Squad is dedicated to leading our fellow classmates in creating a safe environment at our school. We work together to bring awareness about bullying and we strive to bring understanding and acceptance of the differences that we all possess.*



*Cynthia Clegg (MCCF), Michael Frechette, Superintendent Middletown Schools, Sheryl Sprague, Rushford Center, show off their Mission Statement cards signed by the students*

On March 17, 2010 the students provided an update to members of MCCF’s Council of Business Partners, Middletown Superintendent Michael Frechette, and Sheryl Sprague, Rushford Center. The students were enthusiastic about their accomplishments and shared many examples of the types of bullying that occur in and out of school. They described some of the projects they have implemented to address bullying at Keigwin:

- distributed and analyzed a survey about bullying;
- implemented a series of “theme days” during No Name Calling Week, such as “Put a Cap on Name Calling” (wearing hats) and “No Name Calling No Sweat” (wearing sweats);
- made morning announcements with poems, short stories and positive messages over the P.A. system.

The plan doesn’t stop here, though. The “No Bully Zone” includes promoting a positive school climate and focusing on student led activities which take a united stand against bullying. In addition program advisors are creating a “train the trainer” segment which includes curriculum, sample policies, state regulations, and suggestions for implementing similar programs at other schools.

The students were adamant about trying to find ways to bring the program to all schools,



*Dan Zimmerman talks with Nikki Belton and a student in front of the Safe Squad bulletin Board*

starting with Woodrow Wilson Middle School in the fall. Superintendent Frechette echoed their hope. “This has been a very useful tool at Keigwin this year and we are pleased with Safe Squad’s accomplishments. The program directly correlates to the District Plan, which specifically addresses creating a Caring and Compassionate environment in the Middletown Schools.”



*Students presented Laura Pedersen and Marc Levin with signed mission statements as Michael Frechette looks on.*



*Keigwin students answered a lot of questions and provided many stories of their first year uniting against bullying*



MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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## LEAVE A LEGACY

Every day, people from all walks of life make gifts to charity and make a tremendous difference in the community and in the lives of others. Each one of you has different and varied charitable giving interests and the desire to do great things now...and well into the future. This takes a good deal of thought, planning and expert advice.

The nonprofits in our county are indebted to Middlesex County Leave a Legacy Advisors, a group of estate planning professionals. They provide educational programs and technical assistance to the county's nonprofits on the multitude of gift planning options available. Stressing the importance of partnerships, the group encourages organizations to take advantage of giving programs at the Community Foundation whenever possible. Their aim is increasing awareness of charitable giving and demonstrating how charitable giving can impact the community for good...forever.

Our Community Foundation was created to help donors of all income levels leave a legacy to our community and fulfill their philanthropic wishes. We welcome conversations with good people who want to leave a legacy. Call us at 860-347-0025. There's no end to the good you can do!



**Middlesex County Leave a Legacy Advisors**

*Standing l – r: Paul Holland, Lisa Staron, Liz Byrne, Jeanne Messick, Rick Moring, Tom Sokoloski*  
*Seated l – r: Jim Cama, Jim McCabe, John Ivimey, Ken Kron, Frank Zocco*  
*Missing from the photo: Ed Lang, Rich Carella, Gary Gomola*