



Winter 2012

An Uncanny Gift of Inspiring Others – the Legacy of Sari A. Rosenbaum

How true these words of Sari's daughter, Julia. Sari Rosenbaum was a presence in the lives of all who knew her, and in the lives of those who did not. She believed in community, in the power of a community to create beauty and friendship, to support its members, and to establish a legacy for generations to come through the good works individuals do every day. Sari's commitment to the Middlesex County community is broad and permanent, found in numerous organizations and businesses.

The Board of Directors has chosen to honor Sari's commitment to the community she loved so much by renaming the Fund she helped establish at the Community Foundation. The Fund for Women & Girls will now be the *Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls*. An endowed fund of the Middlesex County Community Foundation, its mission is to support programs that empower Middlesex County women and girls to be self-reliant and reach their potential.

Fifteen years ago, Sari's belief in community became a reality when she joined many others in a grass-roots movement to establish a Community Foundation dedicated to improving the quality of life in Middlesex County. She knew the power of a group of individuals coming together, and working together toward a common goal. The Community Foundation is for the benefit of all, and Sari believed in its

*"Sari was a driving force for
good and beauty.*

*A wife, mother, sister, grandmother,
she sustained us.*

A community activist, she inspired us.

*A friend and mentor, she supported
and guided us.*

*A consummate wit and storyteller,
she kept us laughing.*

*Through our shared memories,
she lives in our hearts and actions
and will forever enrich our lives."*

Julia Rosenbaum

purpose. She served the Middlesex County community as a founding Director, Secretary and Vice Chair of the Board, a member of several committees including Grants and Development, and ultimately as a Director Emeritus.

Sari was a person who redefined altruism upwards. She did a lot of good without seeking recognition or acknowledgement. She could be a leader or she could do the nuts and bolts work behind the scenes. Everyone knew that if Sari asked for assistance, asked for time, asked for talent for a project, that it was the right thing to do. Ten years ago Sari again quietly stepped forward with a group of like-minded women determined to make a difference in their community. They believed the Community Foundation could provide opportunities to women and girls by supporting nonprofit organizations dedicated to

enriching the lives of women and girls in our region. Through their efforts the Fund for Women & Girls was established, a Fund she considered one of her most important achievements.

Though Sari is missed by all who knew her, she continues to be a driving force for good and beauty. She does live on in the hearts and actions of those who follow her example. Her legacy is her life, her commitment, her quiet leadership that resonates in the memories and actions of all she touched.



*Patti Vassia, Jean Caron and Sari
Rosenbaum laying the ground work
for the Fund for Women & Girls*



*Sari and Howard Rosenbaum at
MCCF's Party with a Purpose*



*Fund for Women & Girls
founding members Nan
Zimmer, Sari Rosenbaum
and Jean Shaw*

*2011 & 2012
Committee Chair Jessica
Carso, Sari Rosenbaum,
Thayer Talbott, and
2009 & 2010
Committee Chair
Maria Holzberg*



MCCF says **THANK YOU**

ʻAloha

Merci

DANKIE

Hvala

Fa'afetai

Spasibo

Gracias

Two Board Members Complete Their Terms

There are just not enough ways to say *Thank You* when a Board member completes a term. MCCF is very grateful for the time, energy and talent its Board members give so generously to the community. The Community Foundation wishes to extend a heartfelt *Thank You* to two Board members who have done so much on behalf of Middlesex County.

Mark Richards of Clinton and **Anita Ford Saunders** of Middletown deserve a huge round of applause for all they do for Middlesex County.

Mark has been an inspiring presence during his term, serving on the Development and Cultivation Committees. Humor is a cornerstone of Mark's personality and a strength he brought to the work of the Board. He also shared his passion for two areas particularly close to his heart: Clinton and the shoreline communities, and helping our young people.

Though no longer serving on the Board, we will not say final farewells to Mark's great work on behalf of our com-

munities. He will continue to serve on the 15th Anniversary Endowment Committee.

During her two terms on the Board of Directors, **Anita** has offered much insight and considerable talent to the Community Foundation. She has served as Co-Vice Chair, a member of the Development and Marketing Committees. Most recently Anita served as a member of the National Standards Reaccreditation Committee.

Anita's knowledge and experience in public relations has aided the Community Foundation and the Middlesex County community well through the development of collateral materials and public relations efforts. Anita will continue to provide wisdom and guidance as a member of the Marketing and Communications Committee in 2012.



Debbie and Mark Richards with Nancy Fischbach



Marcia Kalayjian and Anita Ford Saunders

DEAR FRIENDS OF MCCF,

Thank you for your generous and constant commitment to our region.

Thanks to you, 2011 has been a wonderful year in so many ways because YOU are enabling us to do more in the community. Your generosity resulted in

- 24% increase over 2010 in grants approved to nonprofits working in our community;
- 25% increase over 2010 in new gifts and new pledges;
- 30% increase over 2010 in new friends and colleagues joining with you to improve the quality of life for all in our county.

You have demonstrated that you care that neighbors of all ages can explore their artistic imaginations; that you care that our local history should be preserved for generations to come; and that you care that people need warm, healthy meals and safe havens in these uncertain economic times.

You care about Middlesex County. You are committed to improving the quality of life. TOGETHER we are able to support our nonprofits in all the great work they are doing.

Thank you for Helping Good People Do Great Things!

MCCF WELCOMES THREE NEW FACES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Community Foundation is pleased to announce the election of Wallace C. Jones of Killingworth, Jean C. LaTorre of Durham, and Moira Bessette Martin of Essex to its Board of Directors. The new Board members began their three year terms January 1, 2012.

Wallace C. Jones, CFA – Wally is the founder and President of WJ Financial Advisors, LLC, an investment management and financial consulting business based in Killingworth. Prior to founding his company, Wally was the Chief Financial Officer of Resolute Partners, LLC. He also spent ten years as a consultant for Ernst & Young, LLP, and served as an investment banker for Adams Harkness & Hill.

Wally is a founding member of MCCF's Live Local Give Local 365 Fund, a newly launched fund that advocates "Everyone is a Philanthropist," and that Philanthropy is as simple and meaningful as a dollar a day. As a member of the Board of Directors, Wally will serve on the 15th Anniversary Endowment Campaign Committee.

Jean C. LaTorre, CFA – Jean is Chief Investment Officer of Aetna, Inc. in Hartford. In this role, she oversees and directs Aetna's diversified investment portfolio and Large Case Pension business. She joined Aetna in 1991 as an Investment Officer and later assumed the position of Corporate Bond Specialist. Prior to joining Aetna, Jean was an Assistant vice President with Municipal Bond Insurance Association and began her career in the Public Finance Division of Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette in New York.

Jean will serve as a member of the Finance and Investment Committee.

Moira Bessette Martin, Esq. – Moira is Vice President and Trust Officer in the Trust Department of Essex Savings Bank in Essex. Prior to joining Essex Savings Bank, she served in a similar capacity for a large national bank's private wealth management division. During her years in private practice of law, Moira focused on advising individuals with regard to all aspects of estate planning, estate and trust administration, charitable planning and the establishment of domestic and international charitable organizations.

Moira is a founding member of MCCF's Live Local Give Local 365 Fund and served for two years on the Community Foundation's annual Evening on the Connecticut River event. As a member of the Board she will serve on the 15th Anniversary Endowment Campaign Committee and on the Development Committee.



MCCF welcomes Wallace C. Jones of Killingworth, Jean C. LaTorre of Durham, and Moira Bessette Martin of Essex to the 2012 Board of Directors

Nikole Doolittle Joins the Community Foundation

Nikole Doolittle joined MCCF in December 2011 as Administrative Assistant and Communications Coordinator. A native of Middletown, Nikole is a graduate of Eastern Connecticut State University. She brings a keen interest in the working of a community foundation and an infectious enthusiasm for Middlesex County to MCCF. We are very excited to welcome her to the Community Foundation.



Great Things Because of Good People!

YOUR continuing support of the Community Foundation means that, together, we are making a difference throughout Middlesex County – again!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and grant making partners, the Community Foundation approved \$144,000 in competitive grants to forty-four (44) organizations serving Middlesex County communities for the 2011-2012 cycle.

These grants support programs and services in the arts and heritage enhancement, education, human services, the environment, animal/human welfare, and women and girls. Thanks to YOU, these grants will provide much needed funds for food, health services and shelter; transportation to low-income and shut-in neighbors; after school programming and tutoring for our

youth of all ages; creative outlets to sustain our inner child; opportunities to dig in the dirt, and explore the many natural resources and beauties of Middlesex County.

Together we demonstrate that there are so many Good People Doing Great Things in Middlesex County, and TOGETHER we are all improving the quality of life for everyone.

Funding for these grants was made possible by the Community Foundation's endowed funds as well as by donations from generous individuals and community-minded organizations, including River View Cemetery-Essex, Connecticut Humanities Council, D'Addario Family Foundation, and Citizens Bank Foundation.

To see a full listing of this year's grant awards and programs, visit the Community Foundation's website: www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org.



Cynthia Clegg brought holiday surprise to the Middlesex Community College Foundation which will support the College Learning Center's tutoring program (Dr. Mark Benigni, Greg Kline, Cynthia Clegg, Dr. Anna Wasescha, and George Eames)



Congregation Adath Israel and the Adath Israel Judaica Museum: Naomi Kamins, Thayer Talbott, Marcia Kalayjian, Rabbi Seth Haaz, Cynthia Clegg, and Howard Rosenbaum

Director Emeritus and Grants Committee member Willard McRae joined Cynthia Clegg to congratulate Matt Pughese of Oddfellows.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011-2012 GRANTEES!

Columbus House, Inc
 Community Health Center - New Horizons Domestic Services
 Congregation Adath Israel
 Connecticut Forest & Park Association
 Connecticut River Museum
 Davison Art Center of Wesleyan University
 Deep River Junior Ancient Fife & Drum Corps
 Durham Historical Society
 Essex Land Trust
 Essex Library Association
 Essex Winter Series
 Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc.
 FISH for Chester, Deep River & Essex
 Gilead Community Services
 High Hopes Therapeutic Riding
 HOPE Partnership, Inc.

I Have A Friend Youth Center
 Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation
 Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore
 MARC Community Resources
 Mattabesek Audubon Society
 Mercy Housing & Shelter Corp.
 Middlesex Community College Foundation
 Middlesex County Historical Society
 Middlesex Habitat for Humanity of Connecticut
 Middlesex County Coalition on Housing & Homelessness
 Middletown School Readiness Council
 Middletown United Fathers
 New Haven Diaper Bank
 North End Action Team
 Oddfellows Playhouse
 Sail Connecticut Access Program

Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries
 St. Luke's Eldercare Solutions of Central Connecticut
 St. Vincent DePaul Place
 Valley Shore YMCA
 Vista Vocational & Life Skills Center
 Westbrook Youth & Family Services

Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls grants awarded to:
 Epoch Arts
 Gilead Community Services
 Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council
 Portland Public Library
 Rushford Center
 YMCA of Northern Middlesex County

A GIFT FOR MARGE STAHL'S SPECIAL DAY IMPACTS THE COMMUNITY FOR YEARS TO COME

What do you get a woman for her 80th birthday who has a loving family, beautiful children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, friends too numerous to count, and good health? Marge Stahl knew exactly what she wanted – she wanted to support women and girls in Middlesex County.

Marge asked her friends and family to give a gift that just “keeps on giving” – a donation to the Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls.

For Marge’s numerous friends, this request came as no surprise. She is known for her generous ways, her commitment to the community she loves, and supporting

the dreams and successes of the women who follow her, generation after generation. She felt she had so many good things come her way that she wanted to give back to a cause near and dear to her heart.

MCCF wishes Marge a warm and wonderful HAPPY BIRTHDAY and says THANK YOU for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

We say THANK YOU to your wonderful friends and loving family who took up your charge and donated more than \$2,000 in your honor.

Happy Birthday, Marge!



Marge celebrates her special day with her husband, John, and many friends and family

Marge with her daughter, Susan S. Gillespie, great granddaughter Savannah Atkinson, and granddaughter Kate Gillespie Atkinson in 2011



MCCF TURNS FIFTEEN

Fifteen years ago, a group of Good People decided to make a difference in Middlesex County.

Fifteen years ago, individuals, businesses, and organizations chose to support Great Things in Middlesex County.

Thanks to you, for fifteen years, the Community Foundation has been working with Good People to build the endowment and make grants, improving the quality of life for everyone in Middlesex County.

We have lots of wonderful plans for our Fifteenth

Anniversary, and we invite you to celebrate all the great works and the good people which have benefitted from your generosity and commitment for fifteen years.

We invite you to tell us YOUR story about Good People Doing Great Things. Call, email, write us and share your good works and those of your friends and colleagues.

Keep up with news of events and Good People Doing Great Things by subscribing to our e-news today – go to our website, www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org, or e-mail Info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org.



MIDDLESEX COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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Ralph H. Shaw II
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*deceased

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Janice Kalkreuth
Nikole Doolittle

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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 and click on:

Make A Donation

The Community is where we work, where we play, where we raise our children, where we call home. 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.



A Legacy Supports Our Community and Fulfills Your Philanthropic Wishes

There are several ways to ensure a bright future for Middlesex County:

- When preparing a will, include a gift for the charity or charities that have made a difference in your life
- Donate a specific dollar amount or percentage of your assets, including stocks, bonds, CDs or other property
- Name your favorite charity as the beneficiary of an IRA or pension plan or life insurance policy
- Honor deserving friends and remember loved ones with a memorial gift

Middlesex County Community Foundation welcomes 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!

