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CFMC October News & Notes

Celebrating the Season with Good People and Organizations Doing Great Things



We say it all the time because we really mean it. We at CFMC only know Good People Who Do Great Things ... it's true!

Just look at what your friends and neighbors are doing ... right in their own backyard ... right were they live, work, and play!

Making a Difference in Middlesex County ... *YOUR* Community Foundation's Funds and Grants at Work in Our Communities



JB Parke Memorial Fund presented two grant awards during the 2026 event. Congratulations to Middlesex Health Cancer Center and Coginchaug Little League!

We at CFMC are proud to partner with JB's family and friends to support the causes closest to their hearts - and JB's lasting legacy - in a meaningful way.

THANK YOU to all who helped make this year's event a huge success!

JB Parke Memorial Fund

The annual JB Parke Golf Tournament at Lyman Orchard in Middlefield sold out quickly! What a great display of community support for the legacy of John Brinton “JB” Parke.

Proceeds benefit the JB Parke Memorial Fund at CFMC and provide scholarships at Coginchaug Regional High School, local youth sports organizations, and ongoing medical research.



Deep River Cares Fund



Hats off to Deep River Cares Fund (DRCF) Committee members: **Jackie Calamari, Nancy Fischbach, Lori Gregan, Kimberly Olson, Laurie Tomlinson, and Maureen Westbrook** for brightening Deep River - and all of our region - with mums, mums, mums . . . and mums ... and **MORE** mums!

The **Deep River Cares Fund at CFMC** is dedicated to supporting the town this committee loves.
They colorfully celebrated Deep River Day and raised funds, too ... all for the benefit of Deep River’s nonprofits and community needs!

Deep River Cares Day on October 21 brought several business partners together to give a huge **HUG** to Deep River by donating a portion of their sales from that day to the phenomenal **Deep River Cares Fund**!



Every day is **“Deep River Cares Day”** to DRCF Committee members and supporters, the generous business partners ... and to CFMC! Some of the organizations that DRCF has provided grants to are:

- Deep River Ancient Muster
- Deep River Conservation Trust
- Deep River Elementary School and PTO
- Deep River Main Street Visionaries Lamppost Project
- Deep River Pocket Park
- Deep River Public Library
- Deep River Sustainable CT
- Fountain Hill Cemetery Preservation Society
- Literacy Volunteers - Valley Shore
- Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries
- Tri-Town Youth Services
- Valley Regional High School Roots to Remember Project

YOU can join in with CFMC and local businesses by donating to **Deep River Cares Fund** and help keep local food pantries stocked, improve local parks, or help youth build skills and community connections - supporting the Deep River community one project at a time!

P.S. A big THANK YOU to the caring businesses who donated proceeds to DRCF: Red House, Calamari's Tavern, Hally Jo's, Pizzaria DaVinci, Anchor and Compass, Celebrations, Compass Rose, Deep River Hardware, G's Treasures, and Shore Discount Liquors.

Middletown Adult Education Program



Middletown Adult Education fills an important void in our area's traditional educational offerings.
The director, Ralph D'Amato, is the **BIGGEST** cheerleader for this wonderful program, and works tirelessly to ensure that students have the resources they need to be successful. CFMC is so happy to be able to help Ralph and his much-needed program!

Middlesex Adult Education provides:

- **job training,**
- **a variety of enrichment classes and academic courses,**
- **early childhood classes, and family education programs.**

A CFMC grant supported the purchase of laptops to help students struggling to use cell phones to complete their online coursework. The plan worked and several students who were not on target to graduate surprised everyone by graduating in May!

Click HERE to see Ralph's VIDEO Message about this incredible turn-around!



Alexandra's Gift

Alexandra’s Gift: The Alexandra Dilger Award Fund helps support neurodiverse young adults striving for greater independence while reaching for their dreams.

Alexandra’s Gift and the Alexandra Dilger Award Fund was established by Gale and Patrick Dilger in memory of their daughter, Alexandra, who lived a rich and fulfilling life despite personal challenges with depression and anxiety.

The Dilgers and the Fund Committee recently gathered with friends, supporters, and the spring award recipients to celebrate Alexandra's Gift. Patrick and Gale Dilger, with their son Jonathan, introduced the four recipients and shared their hopes, goals, and aspirations with the group. We're honored to join with so many to give a big Round of Applause to these amazing young people.

Awards through Alexandra's Gift: The Alexandra Dilger Award Fund are not monetary scholarships; rather, the awards will provide recipients with the tools and supports for success.

- Awards can only be made through high school transition programs, two and fouryear colleges, and nonprofit organizations providing programs and services to neurodiverse young adults.
- Nomination forms may be submitted by a neurodiverse individual or a nominator who knows an eligible candidate.

Did one of this month's fund or grantee stories grab your attention?

Looking for a way to help do just a little bit more?

It's simple ... Make a contribution to the CFMC E-News Grant Initiative, and we will make that grant on your behalf!
100% of your contribution is awarded to the organization you specify.

CFMC E-NEWS GRANT CONTRIBUTION FORM



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Info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org

860.347.0025

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