

Proud Past, Bright Future





THE VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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FOUNDATION

THE VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Valley Community Foundation was established in 2004 to serve the cities and towns of Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour and Shelton, Connecticut.

Since then, we have dedicated ourselves to making our Naugatuck Valley home a better place to live and work, both now and in the future, in several ways:

by providing leadership on critical community issues;

by informing, encouraging and engaging people to play a role in improving the Valley's quality of life;

by increasing philanthropy, which lifts our entire region;

by attracting and making grants from Permanent Endowed Funds;

by connecting Fund Donors with the area's vital Non-Profit Organizations;

by managing and growing the endowment nest eggs of these dedicated local charities; and, most importantly,

by providing a means for individuals to continue their philanthropy in perpetuity.

Our Board of Directors consists of a volunteer group of Valley leaders, each of whom lives and/ or works in one of our five towns.

Our VCF President/CEO implements the Board's objectives, and directs our daily operations.

We are affiliated with The Community Foundation *for* Greater New Haven, which provides us with in-kind services, including the management of the Funds entrusted to our care, assuring our Donors that their Funds will receive the careful, efficient and effective attention of one of our country's oldest community foundations. ¶



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Dear Friends:

We take great pleasure in delivering to you our Seventh Annual Report, which each year builds on the theme set out on its cover: the Proud Past and Bright Future of our five cities and towns in the Naugatuck Valley.

2010 was the year that the Valley's dream became reality.

For decades, a small group of Valley residents have held the firm belief that a locally-run, Valley-specific charitable foundation could do the work of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven in the Valley in a way that CFGNH itself had not been able to fully accomplish over its prior 70+ years of existence. And CFGNH agreed with them.

In 2010, their concept was proven correct.

In the seven years since our founding, the Valley Community Foundation created a rising tide of local philanthropy, attracted more than 80 new Funds with over \$8 million in assets, and distributed a total of \$1.46 million dollars to Valley-specific organizations.

As a result, the newly signed Affiliation Agreement between VCF and CFGNH recognizes that we have established ourself as the Valley's charitable endowment, acknowledges that achievement, and assures our permanent existence.

There is now a joint New Haven-Valley annual Responsive Grantmaking Program, in which the Valley Board will make the decisions on Valley-specific grant applications. And CFGNH now makes an annual appropriation to VCF for grantmaking and operations, which for 2011 amounts to \$1.126 million dollars.

Our success is due to many people: our founding Board members; our first Board Chair, Joe Pagliaro, Sr.; our first President, Angela Powers; our dedicated Board members, past and present; and the President, Staff and Directors of our wonderful partner, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

Ultimately, however, all credit and honor is due to the people and families of the Naugatuck Valley: the Fund Donors listed in this Book. They have brought us to this great moment in our short history. By creating Funds which honor their individual lives and pasts, they have assured the Valley's collective future, and we are privileged to be associated with them.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory J. Stamos, Board Chair

James E. Cohen, President & CEO



Affiliated with

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven



ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Want a reason to join a Rotary Club? Just ask Ansonia School Superintendent, Carol Merlone. One minute she was attending the weekly Rotary Club meeting in Ansonia, and the next she was coming away with a plan to consolidate and upgrade the Ansonia School System's scholarships – by creating the Ansonia Public Schools Scholarship Endowment Fund with the Valley Community Foundation.

That day, VCF President Jamie Cohen was making a presentation to the Rotary group, when his remarks resonated with Mrs. Merlone. "He made me think of ways that VCF's investment successes might work for us by moving under their umbrella," she said. What happened next was a series of meetings with Ansonia's Business Manager, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent.

John Lawlor, the Ansonia Board of Ed Chairman, who did much of the negotiating, said, "Jamie was open and responsive during our due diligence process – he worked with the Board, alleviated our concerns, and explained the endowment concept to us. As a result of his efforts, and VCF's ability to preserve the scholarship funds entrusted to us over the years, the Board voted unanimously to engage VCF's investment management services."

The Fund was established to more effectively manage the scholarships that were all in individual passbook accounts. "It was one thing when local banks were paying 5% on passbook savings. But with current rates less than one percent, we needed VCF's management and expertise to keep our Funds from being depleted down to zero," said Mrs. Merlone. "Their professional team will oversee the Fund, make our scholarships permanently self-funding, and add even greater value to the generous contributions of the original scholarship Donors."

The Ansonia Schools especially liked that VCF is a local, non-profit philanthropy, specializing in this type of activity. "VCF has a proven track record of local community involvement, and are offering their professional services at a minimum charge to our district," said Ansonia School Business Administrator James Gaskins. "This move will assure the long term stability of our Scholarship Funds."

Superintendent Merlone is pleased with the outcome thus far. "We now have a way to keep these scholarships going for the long term – they will not end or have their balances depleted," she said. "Our Scholarship Endowment Fund at VCF assures that we can invest in our students' futures for years to come."





ANSONIA ROTARY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND ESTABLISHED 2010



Incorporated in 1925, the Ansonia Rotary Club has a long-standing history of service to its community. For the past several decades, this has included awarding scholarships to deserving Ansonia High School students. The funds for these awards were invested in CDs in various local banks, which, at the time they were originally established, were providing strong interest rates.

Fast forward to our current economic climate, with all of the challenges we now face. The 18 current Ansonia Rotary Club members wanted not only to consolidate these separate accounts into one, but to have an increased rate of return on their investment. Well aware of VCF President Jamie Cohen's work at the Foundation and throughout the Valley community, they asked him to attend their meeting and make a presentation to the Club about creating a Fund with VCF.

"We wanted to know how it would work, and when funds would be available to us," said Club President Ned Miller. "One of the most important things for us was to have the ability to make the decision about what student or students

would receive this scholarship. Jamie also provided us with great information about how the Fund would be managed by investment professionals familiar with small groups like ours. When it came to a vote, it was unanimous."

Students apply for the scholarship through the Ansonia High School Guidance Department. The applications are then submitted to the Rotary Club's Scholarship Committee for review and decision. "We weigh many criteria in this process," said VCF Board Member and Scholarship Committee Chair Tim Dillon. "We look at academic achievement, participation in school activities, attendance, and, of course, financial need. In the past, smaller scholarships were given out to several students, but with the rising costs of tuition, we feel it has been more effective to designate a larger scholarship to just one student to really help make a difference," Tim said.

The Ansonia Rotary Club hopes to keep building the Fund throughout the years to help keep it growing even stronger. "One of the best things about this Fund is that no matter what happens to the Club, this Scholarship Fund will remain intact, said Ned. "We know that was the intent of those who donated money to this program in the past. We're pleased to know it will continue to honor that initial commitment and investment well into the future."



THOMAS W. CURRAN, SR. FAMILY FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Thomas Curran, Sr. may not have been born and raised in the Valley, but he was certainly one of its fondly adopted sons. Originally from Walpole, Massachusetts, young Tom moved to Michigan to work for General Motors. In 1963, he was transferred to Shelton as GM's Eastern Regional Sales Manager, and found a permanent home in the Valley. Together with his wife, high school sweetheart, Ruth, they raised six children – Kathleen, Tom Jr., Chris, Jim, Trish, and Michael – many of whom still live in Shelton.

Thomas Curran, Sr. was an extremely giving and caring man, involved in fundraising and charitable efforts not only in Shelton, but also in Stratford and Westport, through his businesses at Curran Volkswagen and Curran Cadillac Pontiac GMC Truck. He was one of the founders of the Oldsmobile Scramble, which became the largest amateur golf tournament in the world, and served on its national Board of Directors for 25 years. He was active in the Connecticut Irish Golf Open, and was a member of both the CT Irish Club and the Civitan Club. He was a committed supporter of VARCA, and was a charter member and loyal parishioner of Huntington's St. Lawrence Church. He was also proud member of Red Sox nation.

Family always came first with Tom. "We grew up in a neighborhood where everyone would always come out for block parties, to just spend time together," said daughter Kathleen Curran Hurley. "We're still close to everyone there that we grew up with. My dad was quite the jokester - he never took himself too seriously. He was always kidding around with our family, friends, and neighbors. He loved being there with us all, having fun."

After Tom's passing in 2010, VCF Board Member Joseph Pagliaro, Jr. suggested that the family consider honoring their father's memory by establishing a Fund with VCF. The Curran Family created the Thomas W. Curran, Sr. Family Fund to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of charitable giving that Tom Curran, Sr. had begun.

"Our Dad was always giving – much more than our family ever realized. He was a helping hand to so many, and we believe that his legacy of faith, community and charitable giving will live on through the creation of this Donor Advised Fund," said daughter Kathleen. "It is also our hope to grow the Fund by family contributions as well as through other efforts. We feel VCF is a worthy and worthwhile Foundation," she said. "His legacy will now continue to help those in the Valley where Tom lived his adult life, raised his family, and called his home."



FRANCIS FAMILY FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Peter Francis was born in Ansonia in 1921, and was a lifelong resident of Stratford. He and his loving wife, Margaret “Peggy” O’Brien Francis, raised their two daughters, Karen and Debbie, with high expectations for their continued education. “There was never a doubt in my mind that my sister and I would attend college,” said daughter Karen Francis. “Education was always so very important to our parents. They grew up in the depression era and neither of them had the chance to further their schooling. Having us go to college meant the world to them.”

In July 2009, Peggy died after a brief but brave struggle with cancer. Tragically, just thirteen days later, Debbie also passed away. With a heavy heart, Peter visited the cemetery each day and, with Karen, tried to determine how best to honor the memory of these very special women.

Peter’s accountant, Shelton CPA Paul Greenberg, suggested that he speak with Paul’s longtime friend, VCF President Jamie Cohen, about the possibility of

creating a Fund at VCF in their honor. The two then sat down and discussed initial details about the Fund. Both Peter and Karen were very comfortable with Jamie and the information and financials he provided. They developed criteria for a Donor Advised Fund, through which the family retained the ability to direct grants where they were needed most. But Peter clearly established that their first priority would be education.

“We wanted to fund an annual scholarship for a student at Bunnell High School in Stratford, who would be pursuing Computer Science, be a good community citizen, and attend either a two or four-year college,” she said. “My dad really wanted to make sure that this Fund could help someone who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college,” said Karen.

It was also important to Peter to insure that the Fund would be in place for the long term, so he included Karen as the Fund’s Advisor. “He wanted it to continue long after we were both gone as well,” said Karen. Sadly, eighteen months to the day of Debbie’s passing, Peter passed away in January, 2011. “Dad was a very independent man, right up to his last day,” said Karen. “He was so glad that we were able to do this to honor my mother and sister. Family meant everything to him. Now I can follow in his footsteps and pay tribute to all of them by continuing to grow this Fund.”



RAYMOND GILDEA MEMORIAL FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Raymond Thomas Gildea was affectionately known to family and friends as the “Little Leprechaun.” Ray loved and embraced his Irish heritage and was never happier than when he was in the midst of a large social gathering, celebrating good times with jokes and laughter. An avid Red Sox fan, like so many New Englanders, he eagerly awaited spring and baseball to return to the Northeast.

Ray Gildea’s passions also included education and his family, and he was devoted to both. For 34 years, he taught and worked in a district he loved, the Shelton Public School system. Ray served as a math teacher at Shelton High School, Department Head, Athletic Director, Computer Center Director, and Director of Finance throughout his tenure in Shelton. Through it all, he and Gloria, his wife of 47 years, raised four children – Kelly, Sean, Raymond Jr., and Kathleen, some of whom still live in Shelton. Ray was proud of his children and their respective spouses, Tom, Tracie, Nicole and Patrick. Later in life, Ray’s love extended to his eleven grandchildren, whom he adored.

“My Dad dedicated most of his life to the Shelton community, and especially to education,” said daughter Kelly Lynch. “He was a strong advocate for each of us with his unconditional love, support, and encouragement. He then took

loving care of our Mom, who developed Alzheimer’s disease later in life; a further example of the selfless man he was.”

Daughter Kathleen Riddle agreed. “Next to being a great father and husband, my Dad was most proud of the work he did with the students in Shelton. He would often say that his greatest day was when I got hired by the Shelton Public Schools and we went to opening day ceremonies together,” she said. “He was teary-eyed the entire time – it was a proud moment for us both, and I am honored to carry his tradition in the school system we both deeply care about.”

When the Gildea Family lost Ray earlier this year, they turned to VCF to establish a Donor Advised Fund to honor his memory. “It is such a great way to keep someone’s spirit alive,” said Kathleen. “We will use the proceeds to award an annual scholarship to a Shelton High School student, and we hope to be able to help students and/or organizations in other Valley towns as well. Our plans are to work hard and reach out every year to grow the fund.”

The Gildeas know that establishing this Fund is what Ray would have wanted. “Our Dad always helped others. But you don’t realize the impact your parents make as you are growing up,” said Kathleen. “It wasn’t until he was gone that we learned of the lessons that Dad had taught others, not only about math, but also about life. By establishing this Fund we are continuing his legacy and, at the same time, keeping his memory alive each and every day.”





JOHN LAURETTI MEMORIAL FAMILY FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



John Lauretti was a quintessential representative of America's Greatest Generation – dedicated to its ideals of duty, honor, country, and family. A survivor of Iwo Jima, one of World War II's most intense and fierce battles, John returned from the war, and, like many other veterans of his time, pulled himself up by his bootstraps, and went to work. He landed a job at Hull Dye in Derby, and it was there that he met his future wife, Margaret Savignano. Together they built a life in Derby, raised a family, and eventually moved to Shelton in the early 1960's.

When John tragically died in 2000, the family received an outpouring of support and generous donations from friends and family throughout region. Those funds sat in an escrow account, while the family considered how best to use them to honor his memory. Late last year, at the suggestion of Shelton Attorney John Welch, the Laurettis met with former VCF Board Chairman Jim Ryan and VCF President Jamie Cohen, to discuss options, which led to the creation of the John Lauretti Memorial Family Fund with VCF.

"VCF was a nice fit for us," said son Mark Lauretti. "We had a great level of comfort knowing many of the Board Members and their ties to the Valley," said Mark. "Who knows the needs of this area better than those who live and work

here? They are genuine – their hearts are deeply committed to Valley residents and causes. We knew that our Dad's Fund would be in good hands with them."

The John Lauretti Memorial Family Fund is a Donor Advised Fund, which will focus on such issues as scholarships, including assistance for students considering military service. In addition, they would like to assist veterans returning from the military with post-traumatic stress disorder. "Our Dad never really talked about the war," said daughter Allegra Fitzgerald, "so we can only imagine what he must have gone through. This Fund will be able to help young people going into the military, as well as those coming back and processing their own difficult experiences."

The family is still working out the details, but has agreed that the Fund will serve to honor John Lauretti – how he lived his life, and how committed he was to those he loved.

"Our dad was like the sun coming up every day," said Mark Lauretti. "He was steady, predictable, and dependable - someone you could always count on." Allegra agreed. "He was the bread winner in our family, working 10-hour days, while our Mom stayed home with us," she said. "But he was totally involved in every aspect of our family life. No one worked on Sundays, and our extended family spent a tremendous amount of time together. Family meant everything to Dad. This Fund is an everlasting tribute to him, what he meant to us, and all that he stood for."



PARENT CHILD RESOURCE CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



There are times when amazing things can come out of great tragedy. Indeed, that was exactly the case with the creation of the Parent Child Resource Center (PCRC) Endowment Fund at the Valley Community Foundation.

Shortly after the passing of her husband Jim, Laura Mutrie, PCRC's Clinical Director, received the proceeds from Jim's life insurance policies. This provided her with a unique opportunity to support PCRC in an even more significant way than she had in the past. Laura approached her colleagues, Executive Director Michael Wynne and Development Director Maureen Peters, with her intention to provide \$10,000 from the insurance proceeds to start an Endowment Fund for PCRC.

The three met with VCF's President Jamie Cohen to discuss how it could be established, and the next steps needed to be taken. Laura requested that the Fund Agreement include provisions for several specific purposes, with remaining distributions to go as directed by the PCRC Board.

"This is not about me or my husband," Laura said. "It is about the long term health of this Agency. I wanted to set aside funds for a meaningful staff recognition Humanitarian Award, which will be nominated by and voted on by staff. It was also important for me to make sure that there would be income designated to replenish toys and therapeutic games for our young clients, and for worthwhile staff development programs. After that, it's for the Board and Michael to decide what's best to do for PCRC."

Mike Wynne acknowledged the sense of pride he had in what Laura had accomplished. "Having an Endowment is no longer just a dream somewhere on the horizon," he said. "This was in our development plan – but certainly not within the first year. To have this Fund created now is truly amazing, and provides us with a solid basis to attract additional support in the coming years."

Maureen Peters agreed. "This was such a selfless and special thing for Laura to do," Maureen said. "Income from the Fund will support some of things that are the hardest for us to do – things that the agency needs, yet is challenged to find support for. What is truly great is that Laura has done it, an Endowment has been created, and now we can concentrate on growing the Fund over time. It's truly a win-win for all involved."

All three agreed about why VCF was selected to hold the endowment. "In a short period of time, VCF has emerged as a place of trust and involvement in this community," said Michael. "We know their Board so well – there are such strong roots with all of them here in the Valley. They are truly committed to making this community a better place." Maureen concurred. "We could never get this same level of return on our investment," she said. "Their experts are amazing." Laura agreed. "My husband Jim was my biggest ally, and he would have supported the creation of this Endowment wholeheartedly. We are so lucky to have VCF in the Valley, to ensure that this Endowment will grow and be put to good to use at PCRC."



LOUIS SCHMECKER, JR. MEMORIAL FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



The teaching profession has been immortalized by the phrase, “To teach is to touch a life forever.” For former Shelton High School teacher Lou Schmecker, truer words were never spoken.

Lou was born and bred in Shelton, attending local public schools and graduating from Shelton High School in 1965. It was in his senior year that he met his future wife and partner, Charlotte, with whom he celebrated 41 years of life and love together. Their two children, Daniel and Jillian, grew up knowing how important education and doing one’s best were to both parents.

Lou was a firm believer in continuing education, so that years after receiving his Associate’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering, he changed career paths and went back to college, receiving a Bachelor’s degree in teaching, followed by Master’s and 6th year Degrees in Education. He taught in the Shelton school system for 30 years, beginning in Industrial Arts, and concluding with Physics at the high school. It was there that his passion for Robotics was sparked and his name became synonymous with every local mention of the word. Lou was a founder of the Shelton High School Robotics Team, and one of his main objectives was for everyone to recognize the merits and importance it would serve in today’s ever-changing technological world.

When Lou passed away suddenly, his family chose to honor him by continuing to support this endeavor. They established the Louis Schmecker, Jr. Memorial Fund with the Valley Community Foundation to ensure that Lou’s passion for Robotics will live on for years to come.

His children are both extremely proud of Lou’s legacy. Daniel remembers, “Dad was the greatest man I’ve ever known - a thinker, a doer, a designer, an explorer, a true artist, a dreamer, a loving friend, father and husband. His teaching and mentoring were just two of the many great things he accomplished in his own life. He made a positive difference in many other lives.” Daughter Jillian followed in her Dad’s footsteps and teaches special education in the Shelton school system. “Dad was my hero,” she said. “I could go to him with any problem, and through his guidance and love, I learned so much.”

When Lou retired in 2009, his Robotics team honored him and had this to say, “Mr. Schmecker was known for his ‘hands on’ and practical approach to complex subjects, such as physics and mechanical engineering, helping students to visualize, understand and solve problems which they faced.” The robots he and his team built together pivoted, telescoped, and reached for the skies. Under Lou’s leadership, the Shelton Robotics team won numerous awards at both the regional and national levels.

The most important thing to Lou was the process, and he loved and encouraged the journeys taken along the way to the finish. He truly embodied the tenets of the FIRST Robotics Program “Igniting Minds, Nurturing Passions and Practicing Gracious Professionalism.” And now, through the – Louis Schmecker, Jr. Memorial Fund, his legacy will forever continue to touch so very many other lives.



SEYMOUR - OXFORD ROTARY CLUB FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Seymour-Oxford Rotarian Joyce Barclay truly embraced the Rotary International Motto “Service Above Self” earlier this year when she created and seeded the Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club Fund at the Valley Community Foundation. Ms. Barclay directed the proceeds of a grant made in her honor for receiving the Valley Chamber’s 2009 Gold Seal Award to kick off the new Fund.

“I wanted to use this money to establish this Scholarship Fund and to ensure that it would continue in perpetuity,” said Ms. Barclay. “We have been providing scholarships for decades through our Rotary Club – but only through annual fundraising, so everything that came in has gone right back out. This Fund will provide our members and others in the community an opportunity to donate whatever they wish - \$20 - \$100 - \$5,000 – which will establish a permanent Fund to support deserving Seymour and Oxford residents pursuing higher education.”

Every year, a Scholarship Committee oversees the Rotary Club’s scholarship competition. They advertise the program, and contact the local high schools. “Service Above Self” is the required topic for a 200-word essay, in which applicants must describe their interpretation of that motto, as well as their personal experiences in community service. The committee then reviews the submissions and selects the winner(s). It is the Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club’s goal to grow the endowment, which will establish a stable and dependable source for increasing the size and number of scholarships in coming years.

Ms. Barclay and her 16 fellow Rotarians chose to establish this Fund with VCF for a number of reasons. “There is an excellent opportunity for fund growth with VCF,” said Ms. Barclay. “Though its association with the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, VCF has produced far superior investment results than we could ever do alone. VCF also allows us to specify the Fund’s use.”

Ms. Barclay was also pleased with VCF’s overall work throughout the Valley Community. “It’s been so impressive, what Angela Powers started and Jamie Cohen is now continuing,” she said. “It truly has brought this community closer together, and provided additional vehicles for giving throughout the Valley.”





SEYMOUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



They often say that timing is everything. And in the case of the Seymour Public Schools, that is absolutely how their new Endowment Fund came to be.

Several years ago, the late Joseph Pagliaro Sr., the first Chairman of the VCF Board of Directors, met Seymour's Assistant Superintendent Rick Belden for lunch to discuss the possibility of the Seymour Schools Scholarship Funds being managed and invested by VCF. Mr. Belden brought this information back to the Board of Education, who expressed interest, but focused on other issues at that time.

After Mr. Pagliaro's passing, the concept of having a Seymour Schools Fund was put on the back burner – until it was recently resurrected by VCF Community Relations Officer Carla Supersano Sullivan. “We had a new Board, and were seeking out appropriate ways to manage our scholarships, which were in low-performing Certificates of Deposit,” said Mr. Belden. “Carla and VCF President Jamie Cohen came and presented several alternatives for us to review. What we liked best is that VCF is a local organization with professional expertise in investing – they could generate a much better rate of return than we were currently getting for our existing scholarships. It was a really good fit and made a lot of sense.”

The Seymour Board of Education will create an Advisory Committee, whose role will be to oversee all disbursements from the Fund. Seymour High School staff will assist the Committee by making recommendations for scholarships to Seymour High School students who meet criteria outlined in each scholarship application.

The Board of Education's goal is to grow the Fund's capital and give it permanence. Without this new assistance, declining bank interest rates would have resulted in existing scholarship Funds disappearing as the initial gifts became depleted. Seymour Public Schools also hope to use the Fund for special Board of Education projects in the future. “We're confident that, as time goes on, people will continue to donate to the Fund through estate planning, and other giving vehicles,” said Mr. Belden.

“What has been really important to the Board of Education and staff throughout this entire process is that VCF is a Valley organization, dedicated to improving the quality of life for everyone throughout the Valley,” he said. “By establishing this Fund, we are partnering with VCF to ensure that our students have the best possible opportunities to improve their own quality of life, both now and in the future.”



SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Shelton High School's first alumni association was organized in 1900, when 24 graduates met on October 12 at the old Ferry School. That original SHS Alumni Association remained active through 1926 with Dortha Verrette as its President.

Years passed – 61 to be exact – until Shelton High School graduate Karen Tomko-McGovern revived the organization. “I got the idea when SHS teacher and alumna Kathy Kelley invited a group of former cheerleaders to perform at the annual homecoming football game. I had so much fun that I wanted other alums – parents and children - to be able to come together to celebrate being a Shelton High School graduate.”

In 1986, the new Association held its first meeting, which was conducted according to the original Bylaws created by their predecessors back in 1900. What began with about 20 members now has a membership of more than 600, who have been of great help to their Alma Mater. SHS Alum and retired Superintendent of Shelton Public Schools Leon Sylvester said “As a former educator, I can honestly say that the Shelton Alumni Association has made a significant and positive impact on many youngsters’ lives. I am proud to be one of their staunch supporters.”

The current goal of the group has been to raise funds for two annual \$1,000 scholarships for graduating students who participate in school activities, take pride in their school, show consistent effort in their academic achievements, and rank in the top one-third of the class.

So why establish a Fund with VCF? “We had done a tremendous amount of fund-raising over the years,” said Mrs. Tomko-McGovern, “and were able to build our nest egg to almost \$30,000. However, late last year we learned that we were no longer able to continue to use SHS’s non-profit tax exempt status for donations. We were also getting a very low Bank savings interest rate on our existing funds, and it just made sense to seek out a better way to manage this money. Several of our alumni spoke highly of VCF, and after hearing what services they could provide, we decided to create this Fund.”

The SHS Alumni Association is committed to building this Fund over time to the point where the amount necessary for the annual scholarship awards will be produced from the income of the Fund. In that way, the Fund can grow and continue in perpetuity. “It is really for the benefit for all Shelton High School alumni to help these most deserving students,” said Mrs. Tomko-McGovern. “For us, it means coming full circle. We’ve had our time at Shelton High School, and have gone on to make our own ways in the world. Now we want to help those who are about to start on their way. We encourage all alumni to join us as we keep this support growing through the SHS Alumni Fund.”



GAETON AND ELIZABETH SIMONETTI FAMILY FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



Gaeton (Tom) Simonetti and Elizabeth (Betty) Pagliaro were born and raised in Shelton. They attended Shelton Public Schools together, where Tom was an outstanding high school football player. Both of their fathers owned family businesses in downtown Shelton, with the Pagliaros operating Frank's People's Market, while the Simonettis ran the local shoe repair and dry cleaners on Center Street. As teenagers, Betty and Tom each worked in those businesses.

Betty recalls that era as a time when the Valley community was smaller and close-knit, where everyone knew and helped each other. She said, "Tom and I always had fond memories of growing up in Shelton. We never forgot our family and friends, and the people of our community." They were married in June, 1951, while Tom was serving in the U.S. Army. They returned to Shelton in 1953, and started their careers, businesses, and a family. Tom and Betty's interest in Shelton - its people, progress and development - never diminished. Tom faithfully followed the Gaels, attending home and away football games until he was in his eighties. He was also a charter member of the Shelton-Huntington Exchange Club.

Together they raised five children while successfully starting and managing various enterprises throughout the United States. The foremost of these was in

the health care industry, in which they designed, built, and managed four nursing homes over an almost 50-year career, with their first two facilities located in Shelton and Derby.

Betty remembers that the concept for entering the nursing home profession came from the late Shelton Mayor Frank Cicia, a dear family friend. "Frank knew that Tom was looking for a new challenge, so he called Tom and asked to see him. Tom went to Frank's laundromat, and Frank gave him that wonderful suggestion for a career." The facilities Tom and Betty built provided jobs and careers for hundreds of Valley residents, including many students from local high schools. Son Anthony Simonetti remembers that, in the 1970's, his father received an award for having hired the most students from Shelton High School in one year. "My father always encouraged his student employees to further their education - that was very important to him."

Before Tom's passing in 2010, he and Betty had often spoken of giving back to Shelton and the Valley - a community they loved, where their family still lives, and where they had prospered. So that August, Betty and her children established the Gaeton and Elizabeth Simonetti Family Fund as a Donor Advised Fund at VCF. The flexible structure will allow the family to give help where it is needed, including financial assistance to graduating high school students who plan to further their education.

Tom and Betty shared a wonderful and successful life, and their family Fund will serve as a permanent celebration of their life's work over their 60 years together.



TEAM, INC. ENDOWMENT FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



If your organization is considering creating an Endowment Fund, now is a great time to do so. Just ask Rich Knoll, the President and CEO of TEAM, (Training, Education, and Manpower) Inc.

“With the economy the way it is, we didn’t see things changing for quite some time,” said Mr. Knoll. “We want to be able to meet the needs of our clients – seniors, Valley residents, people who are going through a difficult time. Creating an Endowment Fund with the Valley Community Foundation makes great sense, and allows us to really plan with our donors and stakeholders for the future of TEAM.”

TEAM has been a local community action agency, as well as a non-profit corporation, for over forty years. With its office in Derby, and child development centers in Ansonia, Milford, Seymour and Shelton, TEAM provides social services through the Valley and Milford. TEAM’s purpose remains the same today as it was in 1965: to build stronger communities by identifying and focusing resources to improve the lives of the economically disadvantaged: the elderly, families and children.

Governed by a diverse and representative Board of Directors, and supported through private and public funding, TEAM has developed a wide range of services to empower and support their clients. The philosophy of the agency is that

assisting and enabling individuals and families to be self-sufficient is socially responsible and, at the same time, promotes healthier communities.

When TEAM began to explore creating an Endowment Fund, they liked the idea of using a local philanthropic vehicle – and began a dialogue with Valley Community Foundation President Jamie Cohen. “VCF has integrity – demonstrated through its proven leadership team, and a solid investment record,” said Mr. Knoll. “They have developed a great deal of trust throughout the Valley, and their services are extremely affordable. We wanted to give our Donors a long term funding option, and the ability to designate their donations to specific programs. Our Endowment Fund at VCF will do exactly that.”

Annual Distributions from the Endowment Fund will flow directly to TEAM, and their Directors will decide how the income will be used to support its programs, including Senior Meals on Wheels, or Affordable School Readiness programs, for example, among many others.

“This was a unanimous decision by our Board of Directors,” said Mr. Knoll. “We didn’t have to re-invent the wheel. VCF has the financial management to help us build and grow a permanent and reliable source of income for current use and for the generations of Valley people we haven’t even met yet. An Endowment Fund will provide TEAM with long term sustainability – and we all agreed that this was the time in history for us to do that.”





VARTELAS - STAMOS FAMILY FUNDS
CREATED 2006 - ESTABLISHED 2010



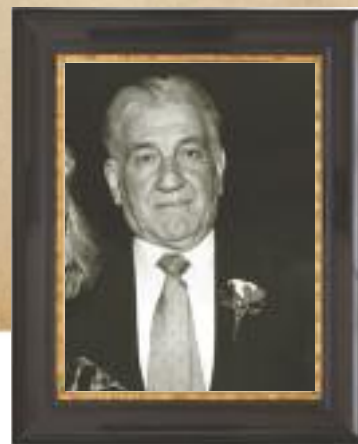
PETER VARTELAS
SCHOLARSHIP FUND



JOHN and PARASKEVE
VONETES STAMOS
"AGAPE" FUND



MARY VARTELAS STAMOS
SCHOLARSHIP FUND



GEORGE VARTELAS
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

During the holiday season of December, 2006, the extended family of the late John and Paraskeve Vonetes Vartelas took time to gather together in Ansonia to decide how best to honor the memory of their beloved parents and grandparents, who came to America and the Valley from Greece over a century ago. The attendance at that first meeting was a portent of good things to come, since 41 of the 44 family members who were physically and geographically able to attend, were there.

Their descendants wanted to remember and commemorate John and Paraskeve's sacrifices and selflessness and concern for others. In just over three years, the family accomplished their first goal by reaching, and quickly passing, the \$100,000 level they had established at that first meeting.

As the family had agreed, upon achieving that benchmark, the Fund has been divided into four Sub-Funds under the family banner. A brief description of each Fund is as follows:

The John and Paraskeve Vartelas "Agape" Fund is intended for general charitable purposes, particularly to those most in need, be it for food, shelter, or medical or emotional needs, with a special emphasis on assisting individuals overcoming obstacles presented to them by virtue of their immigrant experience;

The Mary Vartelas Stamos Fund can also be used by the VCF Board for general charitable purposes, with a preference for grants for Mary's beloved birthplace of Ansonia, and may be combined with the "Agape" Fund;

The Peter Vartelas Ansonia High School Scholarship Fund is for scholarships to graduating seniors of Ansonia High School based primarily on financial need, school and civic involvement and service to the general community; and

The George Vartelas Ansonia High School Scholarship Fund is for a scholarship to a member of the Ansonia High School football team who demonstrates characteristics of sportsmanship, effort and teamwork.

By reaching this milestone, The Vartelas-Stamos family honors the sacrifices made by their parents and grandparents, two Greek immigrants, who more than a century ago established a new home together in the Valley, and whose legacy of compassion for others will continue in perpetuity as a result of these Funds.



ALPHONSO AND EULALIA VITELLO FAMILY FUND
ESTABLISHED 2010



If there were awards for citizens who embody the true spirit of their community, then Alphonso and Eulalia Vitello would certainly be in the running for the City of Derby's prize. These two first generation Italian-Americans were lifelong Derby residents and each devoted their lives to the City's youth through education, coaching, and athletics.

Alphonso and Eulalia (known to all as "Al" and "Yolie") knew each other since grammar school – she was a cheerleader at St. Mary's and he was a basketball player for Irving. In the beginning, Yolie wasn't terribly interested in Al, since he was from the rival school. But as time went on and they got to know each other, this mattered less and less, and the rest, as they say, is history. In 1946 they were married.

Al enjoyed an award-winning athletic career at Derby High School, where he excelled in baseball, basketball, football, and track, particularly as quarterback of Derby's first State Football Championship team and Most Valuable Athlete in 1941. He went on to play football at (and graduate from) Providence College, got a Master's degree from Columbia, a 6th year certificate from the University of Bridgeport, served in the Navy, and played semi-pro football.

For many years, Al and Yolie worked with Derby students. He was a teacher, coach, and athletic director at Derby High School for over 40 years, and completed his tenure as chair of the social studies department. During his coaching

career, he took the basketball team to the state finals, and led his baseball team to the first and only Housatonic League championship in Derby history.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Vitello spent 25+ years at St. Mary's School and Parish in a variety of positions. However, it was her service as a beloved substitute teacher that was most fondly recalled by VCF Board member and former St. Mary's student David Grant. "We were thrilled when we were told that Mrs. Vitello was coming into our class. She was a sweet, kind and nice person, and it was a pleasure to have her as a teacher, even if it was for just one day at a time."

When Mr. Vitello passed away in 2010, the family turned to VCF to honor him and his commitment to Derby's young people. "Our dad taught VCF President Jamie Cohen at Derby High School," said John Vitello, one of the family's three sons. "He was also my father's basketball statistician and long time family friend – so when it came time to pay tribute to our Dad's memory, we sat down and talked with Jamie and decided to create the Alphonso and Eulalia Vitello Family Fund at VCF."

The goal of the Fund is to help as many Derby youth and residents as possible. The family has created flexible guidelines for giving, in order to be able to direct grants and scholarships where they are needed most. "It's all about trying to do what we can for the youth of Derby just as our mother and father did all of these years," said John Vitello. "My Dad truly came full circle here – in his own youth he achieved accolades for the City through his athletics, then came back to Derby and, with my Mom, raised my brothers Al, Paul, and me, and brought even more honor to our City through all his great community work. Creating this Fund is the best way we know to have this wonderful family legacy continue in perpetuity."



VALLEY YMCA ENDOWMENT FUND
ESTABLISHED 2009



Since 1866, the Valley YMCA has proudly provided services to the Naugatuck Valley Community. From recreation to housing to affordable childcare, people from throughout the Valley have benefitted from the sound management and forward thinking of the Valley YMCA Board and staff. Following the tradition of planning now to provide for the future, in 2009 the Valley Y became a chapter of the Central Connecticut Coastal YMCA, and entrusted its Endowment Fund to the Valley Community Foundation.

“As a Board, we looked at this and said, ‘This is the Valley – let’s put our money where it will help the most’,” said YMCA Board Chair Dennis Gleason. “We had our Endowment with a private company for many years, but were not terribly happy with the way it was being administered. I’ve known VCF President Jamie Cohen since we were kids – and when he first became a VCF Board Member we began discussing what our options with VCF might be. Shortly thereafter my wife Dorothy, who is the President of the Derby Public Library Board of Directors, had Jamie come and make a presentation to their Board, and they voted to have their Endowment become a permanent Fund at VCF. We watched the significant benefits that the Derby Library received, and decided that this would be the right thing to do for the YMCA as well.”

Valley YMCA Executive Director Suzanne Reilly agreed. “We wanted to make sure that what was raised in the Valley stayed in the Valley,” she said. “The VCF Board is comprised of such a committed group of volunteers who truly care about this community. We felt very comfortable with the fact that we knew them on a first name basis, and that they were going to manage this Endowment to help us sustain our programming today, tomorrow, and for years to come.”

The Valley YMCA Endowment is divided into two parts. The Peter J. Vartelas Invest In Youth Fund is restricted and dedicated solely to provide scholarships for children to attend the YMCA at little or no cost. The remaining non-restricted Funds can be used for such things as building maintenance or operating expenses.

“With a building that has been in place since 1924, the costs to keep it running keep climbing each year,” said Dennis. “This Endowment will help us to increase the value of both the restricted and non-restricted funds as we begin to address our needs for the future. We’re in this for the long haul, not the short term. Having this partnership with VCF benefits not only our members, but the entire Valley Community. We’re all working together to do what’s best for the Valley.”



FINANCIALS

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

The Valley Community Foundation is proud to report for the year ended December 31, 2010, in partnership with the investment management structure and stewardship of The Community Foundation *for* Greater New Haven, a net return on our funds of 10.6%. This compares favorably to the policy benchmark of market indices of 10.4%.

Since the Valley Community Foundation's inception seven years ago, the annualized net return on funds has generated 2% more, per year, than the market-driven policy benchmark requirement.

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 & 2009

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES*

	2010	2009
REVENUE		
Endowed contributions	\$433,505	\$403,455
Unendowed contributions	797,335	606,388
Total contributions	1,230,840	1,009,843
Less: contributions to organization endowments	(183,165)	(140,425)
Total contributions, net	1,047,675	869,418
Realized and unrealized gain on investments, net	109,712	783,917
Investment income, net	243,033	283,367
Total revenue	\$1,400,420	\$1,936,702
EXPENSE AND NET ASSETS		
Grant appropriations	707,481	676,859
Less: grants to organization endowments	(60,622)	(147,132)
Grant appropriations, net	646,859	529,727
Administration Expense	277,298	230,108
Total expense	924,157	759,835
Increase (decrease) in net assets	476,263	1,176,867
Net assets - Beginning of year	3,748,413	2,571,546
Net assets - End of year	\$4,224,676	\$3,748,413





FINANCIALS

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION *

	2010	2009
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$322,383	\$276,091
Endowment investments at market value	7,742,555	6,711,334
Total investments	8,064,938	6,987,425
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	1,223	2,616
Contributions receivable for endowment	—	175,000
Total assets	\$8,066,161	\$7,165,041
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts payable	12,866	1,008
Organization endowments	3,816,318	3,383,020
Grants payable	12,300	32,600
Total liabilities	3,841,485	3,416,628
Net assets	4,224,676	3,748,413
Total liabilities and net assets	\$8,066,161	\$7,165,041

* The Valley Community Foundation's financial activities are part of The Community Foundation *for* Greater New Haven's audited financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for supporting organizations. Complete copies of the audited statements are available on the website, www.valleyfoundation.org.

2010 RESPONSIVE GRANTMAKING

Through our Affiliation Agreement with the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, the Valley Community Foundation receives annual funding from the Frank and Ross Gates Fund to support VCF's operations, initiatives, and grants to the Valley community.

In 2010, the Valley Community Foundation conducted its third round of responsive Grant-making, having set aside \$182,800 from the Gates Fund for that purpose. Happily, however, as the result of generous contributions from several Donor Advisors of VCF Funds, the Board of Directors was able to award a total of \$199,600 to twenty eight Valley non-profit agencies, as described below.

Ansonia Community Action, Inc. - Support the purchase of computer and work station equipment to create a computer lab for residents of Ansonia and other neighboring towns as well as youth who attend the Literacy Program and the after school program and youth who utilize the Youth Service Bureau. - **\$12,000**

***Ansonia Public Schools** - Support the Ansonia High School Human Relations Club's development and implementation of a Community Culture Fair. **\$5,500**

***Area Congregations Together, Inc.** - Provide general operating support food, shelter and support services to people in need in the Lower Naugatuck Valley - **\$18,700**

Birmingham Group Health Services - Support the Valley Substance Abuse Action Council's (VSAAC) implementation of 3 community based 12 hour Mental Health First Aid trainings in the Valley communities, as well as certification training for an additional staff member - **\$6,000**

***Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley** Support the hiring of an instructor for the Power Hour program which provides after school home work help for approximately 231 children - **\$6,900**

***Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Hartford** Support behavioral health services which are offered to low-income Valley children and youth with emotional and behavioral disorders, including children/youth whom have experienced trauma and children/youth who have been victim or witnesses to abuse - **\$10,500**

***Center Stage Theatre, Inc.** - Support a strategic planning process and the hiring of a development consultant - **\$11,300**

Connecticut Radio Information System, Inc. Provide general operating support for electronic radio reading service to blind and print handicapped people in Valley towns - **\$2,000**

***Derby Bureau of Youth Services** - Support the implementation of a Juvenile Mediation program at the Derby Middle School and High School - **\$2,000**

***Derby Historical Society** - Provide general operating support to foster and promote study, discussion, and interest in the history of Derby, as well as to discover and collect any property or material which may preserve, establish and/or illustrate this history - **\$11,000**

Derby Neck Library - Support the purchase of fourteen Hewlett Packard computers and two iMac computers to increase the number of available computers for patrons and to replace older computers - **\$10,000**

***Father McKenna St. Vincent de Paul Society** Support the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables on a weekly basis for distribution to twenty families - **\$5,500**

Griffin Hospital - Support the purchase of equipment including two Hologic Selenia Mammography units (2), CAD (computer aided detection) unit, digital mammography workstation, and mammography processor for the new Comprehensive Breast Wellness Center, which will provide a full array of services for preventive and diagnostic breast care for residents in the Lower Naugatuck Valley area - **\$11,000**

Housatonic Valley Association, Inc. - Support the creation of an on-line recreational guide to the waters and greenways of the sections of the lower Housatonic and Naugatuck rivers in Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour, Shelton, Stratford, Orange and Milford - **\$1,500**

Long Hill Burial Ground Ltd. - Provide general operating support to preserve and maintain the cemetery. - **\$1,000**

Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center Inc. - Provide general operating support for behavioral and mental health services for children in the Lower Naugatuck Valley - **\$12,500**

Oxford Historical Society - Support the recording and storage of artifacts for the new Twitchell-Rowland Homestead museum so that they can be preserved, conserved, and available for future programs, future displays and future research - **\$2,700**

***Salvation Army Ansonia Corps** - Provide general operating support for comprehensive emergency assistance in the forms of food, clothing, utilities and furniture vouchers to individuals and families from the Greater Valley area - **\$15,500**

Shelton Economic Development Corporation Provide general operating support to advance the economic development and public welfare of the City of Shelton by promoting and assisting the growth and development of businesses - **\$4,000**

Shelton Historical Society - Support consultant costs to update job descriptions for staff, board and volunteers; to develop a marketing plan to recruit and train volunteers; and to create training handbooks and other materials for volunteers, concentrating on collections care and museum education - **\$1,000**

Shelton Public Schools Mentoring Program Support the Shelton Mentor Program for the 2010-11 school year, as well as allow The Governor's Prevention Partnership to provide technical assistance to the Shelton Mentoring Program to help maintain long-term sustainability through corporate partnership, training and mentor recruitment - **\$2,500**

Shelton Youth Service Bureau - Support life skills workshops and seminars for youth ages 8-12 offered by the Youth Service Bureau - **\$1,500**

TEAM, Inc. - Support the hiring of a full time analyst/planner position to assist the CEO in implementing the strategic plan, researching new resources, and organizing the collection of and evaluation of client outcomes and service outputs for results based accountability purposes - **\$11,000**

***Valley Arts Council** - Provide general operating support to promote the arts in the Valley region and develop community based arts programs for all ages - **\$2,900**

Valley Council for Health and Human Services (Valley United Way fiduciary) - Provide general operating support to address the need for inter-agency collaboration in identifying and addressing community health and human service needs and to support a strategic planning process. - **\$10,000**

Valley Early Childhood Task Force (Valley United Way fiduciary) - Support Parent Education Support Groups for Valley families with children between the ages of birth through eight. - **\$1,800**

Valley Even Start (City of Shelton Board of Education fiduciary) - Support the Connecting Families Project which connects Valley Even Start families with cultural and educational experiences in addition to connecting the 140 enrolled children and their parents at TEAM Early Education with two educational programs and a distribution of 1,260 new children's books. - **\$4,000**

Valley YMCA - Provide general operating support for programming for Valley residents to relax, exercise, develop self-esteem through leadership activities, experience personal growth, and to attain healthy lifestyles - **\$10,000**

***Women's Business Development Center** Provide general operating support to help women achieve economic self-reliance by educating and counseling them to start and grow businesses which, in turn, results in job creation and community vitality - **\$5,300**

**indicates support from Donor Advised Funds*



2010 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS AND GRANTS

GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

In 2010, the Board of Directors made the following Grants to recognize the contributions of outstanding volunteers honored for their community service, and voted to act as Sponsor of events conducted by the local charities listed below:

Ansonia Community Action, Inc.

40th Anniversary Event Sponsorship - **\$500**

Birmingham Group Health Services

In honor of Dominick Thomas, recipient of the Charles H. Flynn Humanitarian Award - **\$200**

In honor of Al Patuzzi, recipient of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce Platinum Seal Award - **\$250**

Valley Substance Abuse Action Council's 20th Anniversary Breakfast Sponsorship - **\$500**

Annual Community Block Party Sponsorship - **\$500**

Holiday Gala Sponsorship - **\$1,000**

Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley

Commodore Hull Thanksgiving Road Race - Major Youth Sponsor - **\$5,000**

In honor of Dominick Thomas, recipient of the Charles H. Flynn Humanitarian Award - **\$200**

In honor of Bill Purcell, recipient of the Business New Haven's Citizen of the Year - **\$250**

In honor of Daun Barrett, recipient of the Service to Youth Award - **\$100**

In honor of Mike Healey, recipient of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce Gold Seal Award - **\$500**

In honor of Charlie Sullivan, recipient of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce Gold Seal Award - **\$500**

Boy Scouts of America, Housatonic Council Program Calendar full page listing - **\$200**

"Scouting for Food" door hanger program sponsorship - **\$1,855**

In honor of Bill Bassett, recipient of the Good Scout Award - **\$500**

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (Helen L. Palmer 'Spirit of the Foundation' Fund)

In recognition of Will Ginsberg's 10th Anniversary - **\$500**

Connecticut Hospice

In memory of Frank DeToro - **\$150**

Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center

Donation box sponsorship - **\$250**

Griffin Hospital

Cancer Center Walk/Run Event sponsorship - **\$500**

Breast Wellness Center Housy One-Miler sponsorship - **\$500**

Gala sponsorship - **\$1,000**

Julian A. Taylor Fund

Julian Taylor Scholarship Dinner sponsorship - **\$500**

Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut, Inc.

In honor of Bill Basset's induction into the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame - **\$500**

In honor of Carla Sullivan, recipient of the Volunteer Award - **\$650**

In honor of Ruth Parkins, recipient of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce Gold Seal Award - **\$250**

High School Business Challenge sponsorship - **\$500**

Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven

To support a partnership with the Valley Regional Adult Education program to expand the adult literacy tutoring program in the Valley - **\$2,500**

Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center

Golf tournament sponsorship - **\$500**

Annual Meeting Silver sponsorship - **\$500**

Mary A. Schmecker Turtle Shell Fund

In honor of Bill Purcell, recipient of the Business New Haven's Citizen of the Year - **\$250**

NAACP Ansonia Branch

Event sponsorship - **\$150**

Oil Drum Art, Inc.

Project sponsorship for U.S. Troops - **\$500**

Recreation Camp, Inc.

In honor of S.P. "Fuzzy" Francini - **\$2,750**

Seymour High School

Second annual Link Crew freshmen orientation sponsorship - **\$500**

Diversity Committee sponsorship - **\$250**

St. Mary St. Michael School

After School Theater Program sponsorship - **\$600**

Storm Engine Company Ambulance Corps, Inc.

In honor of Edward J. Cotter, Jr.'s induction into the Connecticut Firefighters Hall of Fame - **\$500**

TEAM, Inc.

In honor of Al Patuzzi, recipient of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce Platinum Seal Award - **\$250**

Town of Seymour

Culture & Arts Commission "Save the Strand" sponsorship - **\$500**

Valley Arts Council

"Art of Giving" Best in Show sponsorship - **\$500**

Valley Council of Health and Human Services

(Valley United Way fiscal agent)

In honor of Pam Lorenzo and John J. Sullivan's (Charlie Sullivan and John Markette), and in appreciation for VCF receiving the Agency of the Year Award - **\$500**

In honor of Lee Cruz, Business New Haven's Minority Businessperson of the Year - **\$500**

Valley Early Childhood Task Force

(Valley United Way fiscal agent)

Read Across America event sponsorship - **\$750**

Valley Parish Nurse Program (Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley fiscal agent)

Children's Health and Safety Fair bicycle helmet sponsorship - **\$850**

Women & Heart Disease Event sponsorship - **\$1,000**

Valley United Way

In honor of Ruth Parkins, recipient of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce's Gold Seal Award - **\$250**

Soup Bowl project sponsorship - **\$500**

VARCA

In honor of Dominick Thomas, recipient of the Charles H. Flynn Humanitarian Award - **\$200**

Walter G. Cady School

To purchase one football helmet for a Derby student enrolled at the school. - **\$170**

2010 DESIGNATED FUNDS GRANTS AND ENDOWMENT FUND TRANSFERS

Grants are made from Designated Funds established by Donors to support specific organizations. In addition, VCF holds and manages the Endowment Funds of several local civic organizations which receive annual transfers of income from their respective Funds.

In 2010, the following transfers and grants were made to organizations from these Funds:

Assumption Church - \$1,000

Birmingham Group Health Services, Inc. - \$2,602

Edward J. Cecarelli Fund for Derby Public Library - Derby Public Library - \$469

**Cohen Family Book Fund
Derby Public Library - \$2,000**

**Harold B. Yudkin Historic Preservation Fund
Derby Public Library - \$2,526**

Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America Fund - \$1,864

**Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America
Endowment Fund - \$14,245**

Oak Cliff Cemetery Association Fund - \$33,500

**Planetree, a Subsidiary of Griffin Health
Services, Inc. Fund - \$2,191**

**Dorothy E. & Kenneth E. Schaible Fund for
the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck
Valley - \$2,780**

Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club - \$103.25

**Donald W. & Lillian C. Smith Family Fund
Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley -
\$103.25**

Trinity Cemetery Association - \$103.25

Trinity Episcopal Church - \$103.25

Valley YMCA Endowment Fund - \$7,796

**Peter J. Vartelas Invest In Youth Fund #1 for the
Valley YMCA
Valley YMCA - \$4,081**

**Peter J. Vartelas Invest In Youth Fund #2 for the
Valley YMCA
Valley YMCA - \$850**

**of Foreign Wars Post 597 Fund
Ansonia Public Schools - \$1,293**

**Women In Networking Fund
Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce for annual
grantmaking program - \$6,250**

2010 DONOR ADVISED AND PREFERENCE FUNDS

Grants from Donor Advised Funds are made by the VCF Board upon the request, and with the participation of, the Donors of each of the respective Funds.

Grants from Preference Funds are made by the VCF Board honoring Donor intent that Grants be made with a preference for supporting particular causes or applications from a specific geographic area.

**** John and Paraskeve Vartelas 'AGAPE' Fund**
+ Area Congregations Together - \$1,000
+ Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck
Valley - \$500
+ Catholic Charities Archdiocese
of Hartford - \$500
+ Salvation Army - Greater Valley Corps - \$1,000

Bassett Family Fund
+ Area Congregations Together - \$2,000
+ Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck
Valley - \$1,000
+ Salvation Army - Greater Valley Corps - \$2,000
TEAM, Inc. - \$1,912

Cohen-DeToro Charitable Fund
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America - \$250
Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck
Valley - \$225
+ Center Stage Theatre, Inc. - \$1,000
Storm Engine Company Ambulance Corps, Inc.
- \$250
Women's Health Research at Yale - \$500

Jane C. and David B. Cohen Fund
Storm Engine Company Ambulance Corps, Inc.
- \$250

D'Addario Family Community Fund
+ Boys & Girls Club of Lower
Naugatuck Valley - \$400

**** Lawrence J. DeTullio, Jr. Fund**
St. Mary St. Michael School - \$600

Frey-Hershey Foundation Fund
American Cancer Society,
New England Division - \$1,000
American Red Cross - Connecticut
Chapter - \$1,000
Ansonia Rescue Medical Services - \$1,000
Area Congregations Together - \$3,000
Benhaven, Inc. - \$1,000
Birthright of Greater New Haven - \$1,000
Boy Scouts of America, Connecticut Yankee
Council - \$1,000
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts
of America - \$1,000
Boys & Girls Club of Lower
Naugatuck Valley - \$5,000
Clark Memorial Library - \$1,000
Connecticut Children's Medical Center - \$1,000
Connecticut Hospice, Inc. - \$1,000

Derby Historical Society - \$1,000
The Foundation School - \$1,000
Friends of the Ansonia Nature and
Recreation Center - \$1,000
Girl Scouts, Connecticut Trails Council - \$1,000
Griffin Hospital - \$4,000
National Right to Work Legal Defense
and Education Foundation, Inc. - \$2,000
Recreation Camp, Inc. - \$2,000
Ronald McDonald House - \$1,000
Saint Raphael Foundation - \$4,000
Salvation Army - Greater Valley Corps - \$1,000
Seymour Ambulance Association - \$1,000
The Umbrella Program - \$2,000
University of New Haven - \$5,000
Valley YMCA - \$1,000
VARCA - \$1,000
Waterbury Adult Education Technical
Training Center - \$1,000
White Memorial Conservation
Center, Inc. - \$1,000

David M. and Gail A. Grant Family Fund
Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley
- \$500

Jones Family Farms Fund
Connecticut Forest & Park Association - \$2,000
University of New Hampshire - \$1,000
Working Lands Alliance - \$5,000

Joseph A. Pagliaro Sr. Family Fund
Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley
- \$225

Samuel Rifkin Fund
+ Area Congregations Together - \$400
+ Valley Arts Council - \$400

Anthony (Sonny) Savignano Memorial Fund
Shelton High School f/b/o Robotics Club, Student
Council, Garden Club - \$1,250

**Dorothy E. & Kenneth E. Schaible Donor
Advised Fund**
Valley United Way - \$20,000

**** Torbi-Saldamarco Family Fund**
+ Father McKenna St. Vincent de Paul Society - \$500

John Tyma Fund
+ Ansonia Public Schools - \$500
+ Center Stage Theatre, Inc. - \$300
+ Women's Business Development Council - \$300

**** Angelina M. and Valentina V. Vitali Fund**
+ City of Derby Bureau of Youth Services - \$800

**** Selma L. and Harold B. Yudkin Fund**
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America - \$750
+ Derby Historical Society - \$1,000
+ City of Derby Bureau of Youth Services - \$700

**+ indicates Donor Advised funding in support of
VCF 2010 Responsive Grantmaking
** indicates Preference Fund**





2010 COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS AND GRANTS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Joseph “Jay” Amico Artistic Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ansonia High School - \$400

Michael J. Adanti Memorial Community Fund

Ansonia High School - \$500
Academy of Our Lady of Mercy –
Lauralton Hall - \$500
Hamden High School - \$500
West Haven High School - \$500

The Geissler Family Scholarship Fund

St. Joseph Church Angel Fund/
St. Joseph School - \$1,887

Raymond Gildea Memorial Fund

Shelton High School - \$1,000

Joseph and Pauline Warichar Memorial Fund

Derby High School - \$2,000

Ann O’Neil Memorial for Integrity Fund

Ansonia High School - \$1,000

Patricia M. Kondrath Scholarship Fund

Academy of Our Lady of Mercy – Lauralton Hall
- \$1,000

George and Beatrice Ryan Scholarship Fund

Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley
- \$2,575

The Maureen, Megan and Katey Ryan Fund

Sacred Heart Academy - \$500

Honorable Joseph P. Flynn and Family Scholarship Fund

Assumption School - \$450

Traci L. Haines Memorial Scholarship Fund

Seymour High School - \$565

Norman K. and Janet N. Santa Fund

Emmett O’Brien Regional Technical School - \$500

2010 VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD SMALL GRANTS

In 2010, The Valley Community Foundation co-sponsored its 19th annual Valley Neighborhood Small Grants program in partnership with the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven. Grants of up to \$3,000 were awarded to the following small organizations to motivate and leverage civic engagement efforts in the Valley:

Annual Thanksgiving Basket Committee

Ansonia Cultural Commission/
Ansonia Harvest Festival

Ansonia High School Human Relations Club

Ansonia High School Life Skills Center

Ansonia High School PTSO

Ansonia Rescue Medical Services

Ansonia Westside Blockwatch

Boy Scout Troop 3 Derby/Ed Strang Community Day

Diabetes Education & Support Group

First Baptist Church

Friends of the Ansonia Community Action

Friends of the Tinney Center

Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America

Huntington Congregational Church Parish
Nurse Program

Martin Luther King Brotherhood Awards
Ceremony Committee

North Star

Oxford High School Booster Club

Oxford Historical Society

Project Sweet Dreams

Restoring Hope Ministries - Hope House

Salvation Army Ansonia Corps

Seymour Community Mentor Program

Seymour Founders Day Association

Seymour Historical Society

Seymour Kindergarten Transition Committee

Seymour Land Conservation Trust

Seymour Public Library

Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club

Seymour High School Dance Team

Seymour United Methodist Church
Parish Nurse Program

Shelton School Readiness Council

St. Augustine Church Parish Nurse Program

Valley NAACP

Valley Women's Health Initiative

Waterbury Symphony Orchestra

YET (Youth Empowerment Team) Program

Youth CONNecTion/Center Stage Theatre

Youth Conservation Corps



The Gates Society is named to honor Frank and Ross Gates whose bequests have benefited the Valley community in profound ways, including seeding the formation of the Valley Community Foundation.

The Gates Society provides a way to thank and honor individuals during their lifetimes for gifts that will come through their estates. These gifts may contribute to an existing Fund, or with a gift of \$10,000 or more, can establish new funds with purposes of the donor’s choosing. Gifts may be bequests through wills; charitable trusts or annuities that pay the donors income during their lives; and gifts of life insurance and retirement assets.

Endowment gifts, such as the Gates brothers provide permanent support for purposes donors held dear during their lives. While increasing in size, the Gates Fund has supported diverse Valley organizations and initiatives, including capital and equipment improvements, scouting trips and teen mentoring programs, and emergency food, shelter and transportation services.

The Board of the Valley Community Foundation invites you to become a member of The Gates Society which recognizes those individuals who have included a charitable gift in their estate plans through the Foundation.

Donors have the sense of satisfaction that comes with making a commitment to the future of this community through a permanent endowment. Members will be listed in the Foundation’s publications (unless donors prefer anonymity) and will be kept current on Foundation programs and activities. Members also provide a powerful example to others who are considering a legacy gift. Foundation staff is available to The Gates Society members and their financial and legal advisors to discuss their estate and gift planning objectives.





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VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
YEAR IN PICTURES

2010 ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 22, 2010 - OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL



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SEPTEMBER 7, 2010 - GILDER BOAT HOUSE



GRANTEE RECEPTION
OCTOBER 18, 2010 - CENTER STAGE THEATRE



GREATER VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SILVER SEAL AWARD
NOVEMBER 4, 2010





OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE
FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDED
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